

THE TIMES

The Colditz syndrome
at Long Kesh:
Robert Fisk, page 16

Mr Wilson faces revolt by left over cash aid to industry

potentially major revolt of Labour Party wingers, including some ministers, is facing Government over its proposals for easing cash-flow crisis in industry. Mr Wilson's proposal during the election campaign to create the form of investment bank to provide vital for industry is seen by the left as undermining the National Enterprise Board, whose action will be to provide cash to companies in return for state holding in the equity. Labour MPs in a letter to *The Times* say reject large-scale public subsidy of the private sector as damaging to the economy.

Some ministers share sickbench fears

Michael Huttfield
Political Staff
Wilson is faced with a potential major revolt from his wing, including some ministers over the Government's proposal for easing the cash-flow crisis in industry.

It can be disclosed that in the week the ministers involved for their names to be used, have held two private meetings at which anxiety has been expressed.

The principal burden of their proposal, floated by Wilson during the election campaign to create some form of investment bank, which would provide money with no strings attached to assist companies with liquidity difficulties holding back investment.

A plan is seen by the an attempt by Mr Wilson to moderate ministers to nine the interventionist National Enterprise Board, function will be to provide companies in need for state holding in industry.

The plan was devised by Mr Lever, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has been working closely with Mr Wilson as his economic and financial adviser. The figures considered in Whitehall bank range between £1 and £3,000m.

Details of the scheme to be worked out and it is to be that the money be channelled to industry, the commercial banking system rather than through institutional investment.

Letters have been pre-voiced their fears because Mr Wilson has

Continued on page 2, col 2

Moderation call on pay by Mr Jack Jones

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Britain faces a very grave economic crisis, and trade unionists should not pursue wage claims that might force firms out of business, Mr Jack Jones, leader of the country's biggest union, said yesterday.

Making his first public appeal to trade union activists since the election, the general secretary of the 1,800,000-strong Transport and General Workers' Union urged moderation in wage bargaining and said that unspecified austerity measures might be on the way.

"It is simply no use pressing actions that lead to the closure of firms we work for," Mr Jones told his union's Scottish conference in Motherwell. "A wonderful wage agreement is of no value if the firm with whom we have negotiated the agreement does not employ people any more."

The Government's overall strategy on inflation, taking into account rents, rates and prices, was as important as wage claims, and the chief objective of negotiators should be to increase the value of the pay packet by cooperating with the social contract.

Mr Jones called on employers in their own interests to provide full information about their financial and economic circumstances to union officials and shop stewards. "We can then negotiate on the facts of the case."

Coming from a leading architect of the social contract between the TUC and the Government, and delivered in the most strike-troubled region of Britain, Mr Jones's speech takes on an added political significance. It is certainly the most important speech from a trade union leader since the election. He took (for him) the unusual step of circulating the text of his remarks to the press several days before they were delivered, indicating that his remarks intended to reach home to all trade unionists.

He opened his speech by saying: "The economic crisis facing Britain is very grave indeed, and this was stressed by every Labour spokesman in the recent general election. The new Labour Government and the unions acting together must do everything possible to avoid a disproportionate share of the economic burdens being placed upon the shoulders of working people and their families. The growth of unemployment is the major danger, and we in the unions must play our part in fighting it."

After making his point about a wonderful but valueless pay deal, he urged on his audience: "If there is a failure to agree with an employer, I urge shop stewards and officials not to hesitate in trying to involve the new conciliation and arbitration service. It is an independent instrument and definitely not a government agency."

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Mr Ford discussed Nixon pardon but he denies any deal

From Fred Emery
Washington, Oct 17

President Ford today went before a congressional committee and admitted officially discussing the "option" of a pardon for Mr Nixon before he resigned. However, Mr Ford insisted, "there was no deal."

This denial of any prior commitment attaching to the pardon granted on September 8, was declared, went for himself and Mr Nixon, for himself and Mr Nixon's representatives, and so far as he knew, for his own and Mr Nixon's representatives.

Mr Ford's admission was the principal development in this first documented appearance of a President before congressional interrogators. He reiterated forcefully his principal justification, that his meanest act was to spare Mr Nixon, but to shift the country's attention

from a fallen President to the pursuit of the urgent needs of a rising nation.

His historic appearance today was witness to his failure so far to achieve anything but the opposite and the need as he put it, "to clear the air".

Further, his disclosures are bound to raise new questions, and Mr Ford was clearly discomfited by a new challenge from the radical young New York Democrat, Representative Elizabeth Holtzman, to hand over to the committee all tapes of conversations between himself and Mr Nixon. This would allay "dark suspicions" that the pardon and the tapes agreement were interconnected.

Mr Ford demurred, argued that the tapes were Mr Nixon's property, but failed to answer.

Mr Nixon announced that his White House taping system was suspended in July, 1972. If true, and it has never been challenged—the only possible tapes bearing on Mr Ford's conversa-

tions would be as congressman, long before Mr Agnew's disgrace and his selection for Vice-President was even contemplated.

At this point escaped Mr Ford's notice as well as Miss Holtzman's.

Mr Ford, who until August 4 in New Orleans, was still standing by Mr Nixon, stating his preference, if forced, for a censure vote rather than impeachment, now disclosed in a prepared statement that he had been apprised of the worst on August 1.

It thus took, by this account, seven days to get Mr Nixon to surrender to the evidence of his self-destruction.

On August 1, President Ford said, General Alexander Haig, Mr Nixon's chief of staff, came to Nixon twice. There was "doubt" on the tapes which the Supreme Court had ordered Mr Nixon to surrender to the Watergate trial.

At the second meeting,

General Haig had heard of what was actually on the tapes.

It was "deceitful", even catastrophic" for Mr Nixon, Mr Ford said. General Haig wanted to know whether Mr Ford was "prepared to assume the presidency in a very short time".

Mr Ford was "prepared to assume the presidency in a very short time".

It also led him, he admitted, to lie to the public on speaking appearances he made in Mississippi and Louisiana the next weekend.

He phrase, suggesting that

General Haig was fishing

for something, left Mr Ford determined not to take the bait.

Mr Ford said even now he could not adequately express

how shocked and stunned I was by this unbelievable revelation" from General Haig.

The prospect of imminent succession to the presidency and the fact that he had consistently believed in exonerating Mr Nixon to be innocent of an impeachable offence, led him to refrain, and continue refraining from any recompense.

Mr Ford said he no longer believed that "and twice using

short-hand language" to describe Mr Nixon's departure.

He suggested that Mr Nixon's acceptance of a pardon was "tantamount" to admission of guilt.

At the critical encounter on August 1 with General Haig Mr Ford insisted that "nearly the entire meeting covered other subjects" than the pardon "options". General Haig admitted there was division in the White House whether Mr Nixon should resign. But in "reviewing" resignation Mr Ford said, General Haig put forward these pardon "options".

The question of whether the

President could pardon himself

pardon various Watergate defendants, then himself, followed by resignation; and a pardon in the President, should he resign.

Mr Ford insisted that General Haig made no recommendations. But he admitted himself inquiring of General Haig "what was the President's pardon power?"

General Haig replied without venturing to be an authority, that a President had the power to pardon even before criminal proceedings were begun against an individual.

Watergate trial, page 7;

Ford evidence, page 8;

Leading article, page 17



President Ford takes the witness stand in his historic appearance yesterday before the House judiciary subcommittee.

Britain prefers EEC sugar to Australian

From David Cross
Brussels, Oct 17

The British Government has decided to opt for a cheap sugar deal with the European Community in preference to a more expensive arrangement with the Australians. The sugar provided under the Community scheme would cost about £130 a ton compared with an offered Australian price of about £180.

If the EEC deal goes ahead, as is confidently expected by farm officials in Brussels, it will give a significant fillip to arguments of pro-Marxists in Britain. They will be able to demonstrate clearly that EEC membership can work to the financial advantage of the British household.

The Community's offer will be discussed by EEC ministers of agriculture at one of their regular sessions in Luxembourg next week when several Cabinet ministers, including Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, and Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, are expected to be present. The speech is also the potential threat of an argument developing at the party's annual conference, which is to take place at the end of November.

After making his point about a wonderful but valueless pay deal, he urged on his audience:

"If there is a failure to agree with an employer, I urge shop stewards and officials not to hesitate in trying to involve the new conciliation and arbitration service. It is an independent instrument and definitely not a government agency."

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Mr Heath is ready to meet MPs

By Our Political Staff

Mr Heath yesterday announced his readiness to meet his backbenchers in the new Parliament. In a letter to Mr David Cann, chairman of the 1922 Committee, he said that he would look forward to a meeting with the executive and, if invited, the committee as a whole, once elections to the House of Commons had taken place.

The effect of that is both to challenge the standing of the old executive and to postpone the occasion for Mr Heath's meeting with his backbenchers longer than some of them would have wished.

They would have liked him to appear at the first meeting of the 1922 Committee in the new Parliament on October 31.

Support from Mr Whitelaw, page 21

The rest of the news

"Scottish parliament": Labour MPs press for early legislation

Ulster: 48 hours' violence leaves Mr Rees unmoved on detention policy

Pit productivity: Miners' leaders agree on union plan for bonus scheme

NHS: Mrs Castle told that National Health Service may be eroded by lack of money to a point of no return

Liberals: Proposal to withhold taxes to speed electoral reform discussed

Blackmail witness named: Mr Paul Foor contends that judge's directions are not binding

Boy's death inquiry: Poor communications between local authority services criticized

Madrid: Spanish professional group forms social democratic political party

Rome: Italy hit by general strike amid continued political chaos

Moscow: Western reporter is admitted to trial of Soviet spy

Washington: President Ford wins the day on military aid to Turkey

West Bengal: Why a good harvest may not save thousands from starvation

Insurance: Slater Walker Securities cash injection for offshoot

British Airways: Forecast of £12m loss this year

Thamesdown: Three-page Special Report

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Mrs Rockefeller has breast operation

From Peter Stratford
New York, Oct 17

Mr Nelson Rockefeller announced today that his wife

"Happy" had had an operation this morning for the removal of a breast. Cancer had been found in a check-up prompted by the similar operation on Mrs Betty Ford, the President's wife.

"I'm confident that it's going to come out," Mrs Rockefeller told reporters. "All I can say is 'Thank God' that she got in and that this country has such wonderful doctors."

The operation took three and a half hours. Afterwards, Dr Jerome Urban, the surgeon, told reporters that Mrs Rockefeller had recuperated fantastically rapidly. "She was in good spirits and her chances are excellent."

Mr Rockefeller opened his press conference by saying: "You won't believe what I'm

going to tell you." Mrs Rockefeller had discovered a lump in her breast last Friday, and there were three small nodules. He thought his wife had been more conscious of the danger of breast cancer since Mrs Ford's operation.

He added that his wife was "very strong, very healthy".

The doctors had told him that the chances of recovery were 90 per cent if the lymph nodes were not involved, and 70 per cent if they were. In fact they were not.

HOME NEWS

Labour MPs call for a parliament in Scotland by 1976

From Tim Jones
Edinburgh

The Scottish Labour Party's parliamentary group has asked Mr Wilson to include proposals for a Scottish Assembly in the Queen's Speech next week. Mr Harry Ewing, secretary of the group, said yesterday: "I think we would be as well to begin calling it a Scottish Parliament."

Mr Tam Dalyell, chairman of the group, said there was complete unity among the Scottish Labour MPs in their support for devolution. They are expecting legislation to be introduced in the first session of the new Parliament, which would enable an elected assembly to begin business in two years' time. Mr Dalyell said he thought that a Scottish assembly would be in operation by the autumn of 1976.

The group has also asked Mr Wilson to appoint a minister at the Scottish Office with specific responsibility for devolution.

Mr Ewing made it clear that the group expected firm legislation and not further proposals for consideration and discussion. They thought enough discussion had taken place to allow firm proposals to be made.

Some members of the group believe that the party in Scotland has failed to get across the full consequences of separation as envisaged by the SNP and consider that a decision-making elected assembly would go a long way in helping to avoid the break-up of the United Kingdom.

Political observers see the total commitment for devolution as a realistic assessment of the changing mood of the Scottish people. Mr Ewing said: "While we have done very well, it cannot be assumed that we have been given carte blanche to carry on as we did before. There was an indication in the vote for the Labour Party that people wanted to change."

In committing itself so wholeheartedly to devolution, the party is assuming a more "Scottish air" and may expect to become even more involved in issues peculiar to the country. The group intends to meet on a regular basis in Glasgow to strengthen its relationship with members and local party workers.

The Scottish Liberal Party also made it clear yesterday that it has sent its proposals for a

Mine union leaders draft own bonus plan

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday reached unanimous agreement on proposals for a national productivity scheme to put to the National Coal Board next week.

A committee of eight members of the executive of the National Union of Miners' leaders has drawn up a draft agreement under which all 260,000 members of the union could receive bonuses of up to £9 a week if face workers reach production targets laid down for all 800 coalfields.

When it meets the union next Wednesday the board will submit counter-proposals on productivity bonuses, based on a revised version of its earlier draft agreement. That was designed to allow the men who win the coal a larger bonus than other workers in the industry.

At that point the talks may founder. The board wants to give the extra rewards for extra output to the men who actually have to work harder. But the miners' leaders are insisting on their scheme, which gives equal reward to every worker, irrespective of job, as long as he or she is a member of the union.

The board has argued that such a scheme could not work and would not produce much-needed higher output. The union accepts coal board methods of measuring ring increased work performance, by using norms based on a Soviet system, but wants the whole of the labour force to benefit equally. Productivity money would become payable when output exceeded three-quarters of the jointly agreed norms, and if pits everywhere achieved 100 per cent, then union members would receive £8 to £9, the union calculates.

The board is likely to reject the union formula as unworkable and to press the union executive to put the board's amended proposals to a secret ballot of the men as quickly as possible. Even if the executive recommends rejection in such a ballot, the board is still hopeful that the men will defy their leadership and accept the board's scheme, which would give up to £12.50 a week to face and development workers, with half that sum for other underground men and surface workers.



Demonstrators marching through Belfast yesterday to publicize their protest about prison conditions in Northern Ireland.

Mr Rees refuses to change Ulster policy

From Robert Fisk
Belfast

Forty-eight hours of burning and rioting both inside and outside Northern Ireland's prisons left the Government unmoved yesterday on its policy concerning detention without trial. Mr Rees, Secretary of State for the province, said the demonstrations, and arson at the Maze prison and elsewhere would not influence him in any degree to change the policy.

Five hundred more troops were flown in to Ulster during the afternoon, bringing the total military strength in Northern Ireland to 13,500. Throughout the day there were hijackings and riots in several towns and more reinforcements from both Protestant and Roman Catholic politicians about the Maze burning, but by evening the province was reported to be comparatively quiet.

Mr Rees said: "I myself have again and again expressed my dislike of detention. In a normal society it is abhorrent. In a normal society I would be in the forefront of those who would campaign against it."

"In a normal society I would demand that people charged with offences should come before the courts of law and should be sentenced for or acquitted of the charges which they face. I have made it clear that I personally am committed to the phasing out of detention when the security situation permits, and in this I ex-

press the view of my colleagues in government."

Mr Rees, who said that since July he had personally ordered the release of 48 detainees in addition to those set free by the Long Kesh commissioners, agreed that the camp was "not a pleasant or orthodox prison in terms of its construction or surroundings".

Throughout yesterday columns of black smoke rose over Belfast where youths in Catholic areas, particularly New Lodge and Ardoyne, had hijacked buses and cars and set them on fire. In other districts vehicles were stolen and used to block roads while in several streets republican demonstrators formed human chains to block traffic.

There were similar scenes in Strabane, to Tyrone, and Newry. In Londonderry, more cars were hijacked and used to block roads.

The new troops, men of The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, together with a hundred Royal Engineers, went on duty in Northern Ireland last night after being ferried on those who were being ferried in Aldergrove airport.

There was much controversy yesterday about government figures of those injured in the Long Kesh riots. On Wednesday night Mr Rees had said that nine prisoners had been detained in hospital; yesterday the Government confirmed that 23 had actually been taken to hospital, nine of whom had been detained.

It emerged, too, that 78 Long

Kesh inmates were taken by ambulance to X-ray units in local hospitals after complaining that they had been maltreated. The authorities apparently never considered invading the prison area where the women held out and Mr Cunningham was released in the early hours yesterday after two clerics had assured his captors that the men at Long Kesh were safe.

After four hours' sleep Mr Cunningham went back on duty yesterday.

Price sisters: The disturbances at Armagh jail are likely to put back further the date when Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, permits the transfer to Northern Ireland of the two Price sisters. In June Mr Jenkins made it clear that his final decision would depend solely on grounds of compassion and security.

Since ending their long hunger strike both girls have remained in British prison, London. Rumours of an imminent transfer to Ulster were recently denied in Whitehall.

At a press conference during the election campaign Mr Jenkins said the Guildford bombings would not affect his decision. The disorder at Armagh, on the other hand, directly relates to the security of the two girls were they to be transferred to the prison under present conditions.

Colditz syndrome, page 16

presses to Sinn Fein and the International Red Cross that the Long Kesh prisoners had not been maltreated. The authorities apparently never considered invading the prison area where the women held out and Mr Cunningham was released in the early hours yesterday after two clerics had assured his captors that the men at Long Kesh were safe.

Government figures also showed that 23 Army personnel had been taken to hospital after the Long Kesh riots together with 14 prison officers. Of those, seven soldiers and four warders were detained for further treatment.

Conditions at Long Kesh itself improved during the day, although several hundred prisoners had to sleep rough because of the destruction of their accommodation huts the previous night. Prison staff took portable latrines and new lavatories into the camp during the day and hot meals were served to some of the prisoners last night.

The kidnapping of the governor of Armagh prison by inmates of his own jail appears to have been a tame affair in comparison with the Maze violence; at least according to the governor.

With a governess and two wardresses, Mr Hugh Cunningham was seized by the women, most of them IRA members, who demanded government assurance.

There is therefore more than one struggle going on with the Conservative Party at the present moment. There is a battle between those who want Mr Heath to go and those who want him to remain indefinitely as leader; and there is a struggle between those who want the question of leadership resolved quickly and those who counsel delay. The position is confused because these battle lines overlap.

Whitelaw move to rally round Mr Heath

By Our Political Staff

Mr William Whitelaw tried yesterday to rally the Conservative ranks from their leadership conflicts with a statement of support, as chairman of the party, for Mr Heath as leader. This was not the time, he suggested, for Conservatives to divert their attention from the nation's economic crisis.

"Throughout the election," his statement ran, "we Conservatives under Ted Heath as leader told the country the truth about our nation's serious economic situation. We must not forget this crisis now, because it has certainly not gone away. Surely then, all our energies must be concentrated on making our contribution as a united party and responsible opposition in Parliament to the discussion of our overriding problems."

"My own admiration and support for Ted Heath as our leader is well known and does not waver (least of all in times of difficulty). I naturally accept that all members of the Conservative Party are entitled to their own views about the leadership of their party. Yet surely at this time of crisis as Conservatives our priority is clear. It is our nation first."

There is now widespread evidence of a desire within the Conservative Party to cool the present leadership crisis. Mr Edward du Cann's letter to *The Times*, which is published in our correspondence columns today, states that this week's meetings of the old executives of the 1922 Committee were for normal and routine purpose can be seen as another move in that direction. No doubt the Conservatives can remember the damage done to their party by the disorderly public scramble for the succession to the leadership in the autumn of 1963 as are anxious to prevent any repetition.

But it would be a mistake to assume that all those who wish to see the greater semblance are keen to see Mr Heath stay on as leader indefinitely. Mr Whitelaw has declared his personal loyalty to Mr Heath with some emphasis. But there are some who want a change in leadership in due course, as others who believe that it is now impractical for Mr Heath to stay on for very long while none the less are equally concerned to take the heat of the present situation.

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Fisherman cleared

Alan George Brown, aged 21, a fisherman, who was said to have fired three rifle shots at a Dutch coaster he thought was going to ram the boat he was in, was found not guilty at Newcastle Crown Court yesterday of causing grievous bodily harm to a deckhand on the coaster. Mr Brown, of Lead Street, Amble, Northumberland, was discharged.

Going bankrupt?

The question whether a university can ever go bankrupt investigated this week in *Times Higher Education Supplement*. There is an article by the late Maurice Bowra by Lot Annan, physical science reviews, and the second installment in the series on six former and higher education.

Three-month-old twins died in overheated room

Continued from page 1

Twins aged three months died when their room became overheated and the supply of oxygen ran out, an inquest at Devizes, Wiltshire, was told yesterday by Dr William Kennard, a pathologist.

The twins, Richard and Elizabeth Cleaver, had been asleep in a carrycot, in a room 11 ft by 9 ft and 8 ft high, with the door and window closed.

Mrs Patricia Elizabeth May Cleaver, their mother, of Mayenne Place, Devizes, said they were born prematurely, and Devizes clinic advised her to have a heater in their room.

Recording a verdict of accidental death, Mr George Lush, the coroner, said there was obviously some misunderstanding about keeping the children warm. That did not mean keeping the room sealed.

Restraint not unreasonable, Mr Jones says

Continued from page 1

clearly seen to be happening, and despite all the difficulties I am sure that the Labour Government will try to create this better climate."

In an obvious effort to allay rank-and-file fears that the TUC leadership was somehow "shelling out" on the wages front, Mr Jones said: "The TUC General Council is a very different body from the old days, and is genuinely seeking to act in the best interests of all trade unionists. The collective bargaining advice which has been offered is the considered view of a leadership no longer divorced from the membership. We hope our members will respect the advice given.

"The central aim to maintain living standards in these difficult times is not unreasonable. The problem will be to secure agreement with all employers. Already the CBI have said 'the

country cannot afford it'... but they mean the social policies of the Labour Government as well."

"I expect them to change their view now that the election is about to come and work towards greater stability in industry. It certainly would not do any harm if the press paid a little more attention to employer activities and we had a little less scaremongering about trade unions and industrial disputes."

He called on the Government and industry to cut unnecessary expenditure, suggesting the abandonment of the Channel tunnel and a joint approach by unions and employers in the road transport industry to ask the Minister of Transport to refuse to implement the EEC regulation on introducing the tachograph in lorry cabs.

"That is why in industry we shall be paying attention to improving efficiency and dealing with labour shortage problems. But the public and employers will need to realize

that this will often require higher wage payments to overcome the present difficulties. This is especially the case with our members on the buses and in the commercial transport industry and some service industries."

He called on the Government and industry to cut unnecessary expenditure, suggesting the abandonment of the Channel tunnel and a joint approach by unions and employers in the road transport industry to ask the Minister of Transport to refuse to implement the EEC regulation on introducing the tachograph in lorry cabs.

His wife, Heather, aged 35, found guilty of the conspiracy, will be sentenced today. Michael Lucas, aged 28, of Victoria Way, Charlton, was jailed for three years for the two offences. Mrs Linda Wyant, aged 24, of the same address, was given an 18-month sentence, suspended for two years, for the conspiracy.

The judge ordered that £672 plus any relevant interest in the bank accounts of the two

men defendants should be sent directly to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, for which the swindlers had allegedly been collecting.

William Spraggon, aged 32, of Alderwood Road, Eltham, was jailed for five years for conspiring to steal money between July and September last year for forging collecting box labels and identity cards purporting to be for the Cancer Research Fund.

His wife, Heather, aged 35, found guilty of the conspiracy, will be sentenced today. Michael Lucas, aged 28, of Victoria Way, Charlton, was jailed for three years for the two offences. Mrs Linda Wyant, aged 24, of the same address, was given an 18-month sentence, suspended for two years, for the conspiracy.

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men defendants should be sent directly to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, for which the swindlers had allegedly been collecting.

Anomaly over inquiry cost resolved by Ombudsman

By Geoffrey Smith
Parliamentary Staff

A curious legal anomaly is disclosed in the quarterly report of Sir Alan Marr, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman), published yesterday. Whereas

He was a successful objector to a compulsory purchase order usually receives his costs if the case has been heard at a public local inquiry, he does not do so if the case has been considered at a private hearing.

The anomaly came to light after a complaint to the Ombudsman on behalf of a successful objector whose case was heard in September, 1971. The next April the regional controller of the Department of the Environment informed the clerk of the county council that the Secretary of State was prepared to consider an application from the objector for costs. But his solicitors were told later that as the decision had been given after a hearing, not an inquiry, costs could not be awarded.

The Ombudsman criticizes the department on several scores, including loss of the relevant papers.

He was able to persuade the department that an ex-gratia payment should be made, but

the assurances for future practice that he received are of wider public interest. Since March, 1972, it has become standard practice to hold a public inquiry rather than a private hearing into virtually all opposed compulsory purchase orders.

The department has assured the Ombudsman that if exceptional, it considers a hearing more appropriate, it will hold one only with the agreement of the objector after he has been told of the difference between that and an inquiry regarding the payment of costs.

The Ombudsman expresses surprise that although the old Ministry of Housing and Local Government (now merged into the Department of the Environment) stated in 1965 that it "accepted in principle that the statutory provisions for an award of costs should be extended to cover hearings as well as local inquiries, it has not been possible in the subsequent eight years to include in a suitable Bill the provision which would implement this decision and end the present anomaly".

Second Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 1974, Stationery Office, £1.10.

Today

Sun rises: 7.29 am Sun sets: 6.2 pm Moon rises: 11.10 am Moon sets: 7.23 pm

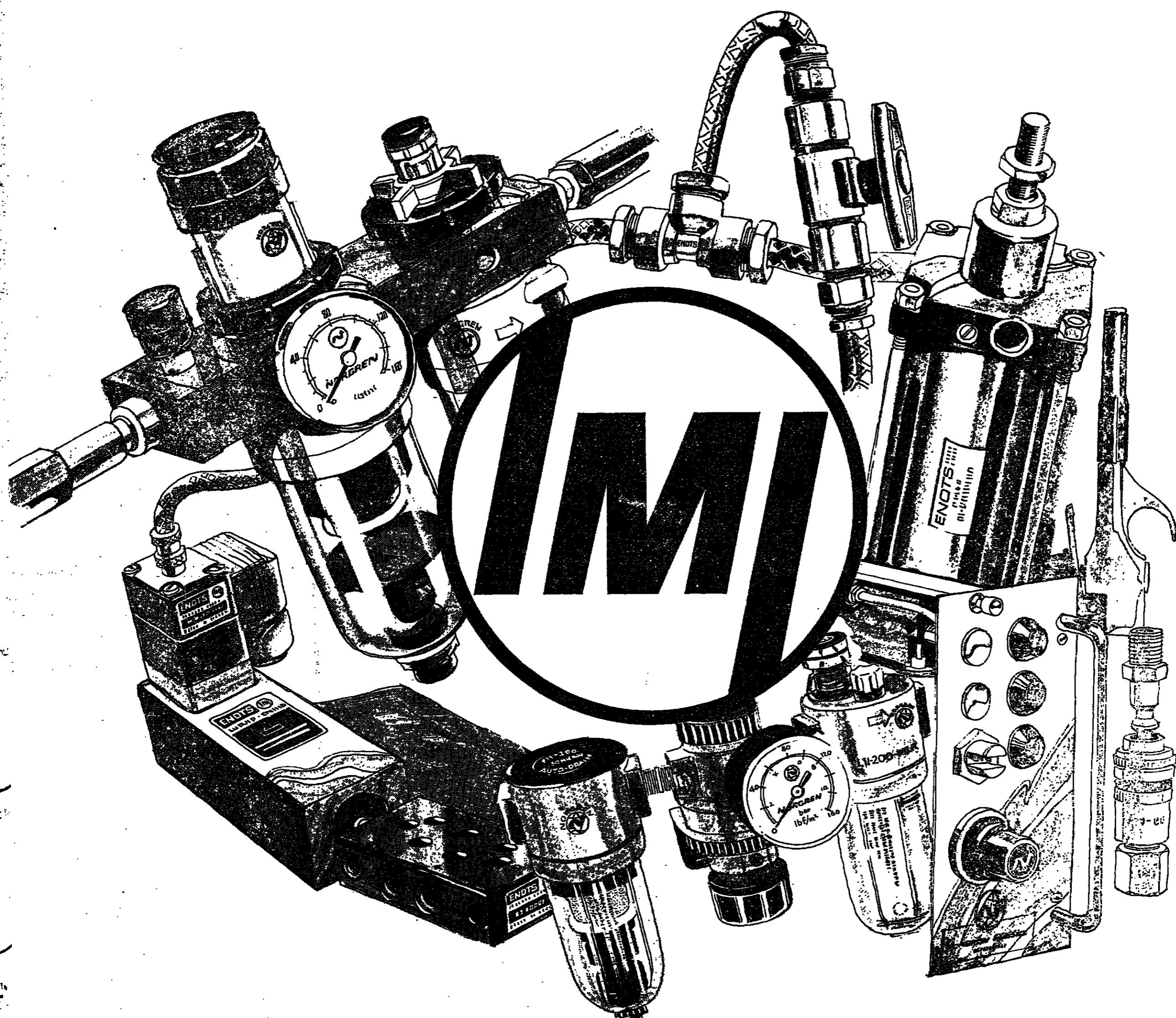
First Quarter: October 23.

Lighting up: 6.32 pm to 7.1 am.

High water: London Bridge, 4.10 am, 7.30 am (24.11 ft); 4.26 pm, 7.50 pm (24.5 ft); 9.57 pm, 12.30 am (24.6 ft); Dover, 1.11 am, 6.38 am (23.2 ft); 1.31 am, 6.88 pm (22.2 ft); Hull, 8.25 am, 7.68 pm (24.8 ft); 8.46 pm, 7.30 pm (23.9 ft); Liverpool, 1.22 am, 9.00 pm (23.4 ft); 1.42 pm, 8.90 pm (23.5 ft).

Low water: 1.46 am, 6.41 pm (23.4 ft); 4.46 pm, 9.41 pm (23.5 ft); 7.46 pm, 12.41 am (23.6 ft); 10.46 pm, 1.47 am (23.7 ft); 1.46 am, 6.46 pm (23.8 ft); 4.46 pm, 9.46 pm (23.9 ft); 7.46 pm, 12.46 am (24.0 ft); 10.46 pm, 1.47 am (24.1 ft); 1.46 am, 6.46 pm (24.2 ft); 4.46 pm, 9.46 pm (24.3 ft); 7.46 pm, 12.46 am (24.4 ft); 10.46 pm, 1.47 am (24.5 ft); 1.46 am, 6.46 pm (24.6 ft); 4.46 pm, 9.46 pm (24.7 ft);

Air Power.



IMI is new to the versatile world of air power but has already become a major force in the pneumatics business—one of the fastest growing sectors of the engineering industry.

IMI companies supply components for compressed air systems—filters, regulators, fabricators, valves, cylinders and fittings—every thing between the compressor and the working tool. Their names include some of the best known in the business, C A Norgren of Colorado, USA, and Enots and Norgren in the UK. Our customers are offered first class service from a growing network of pneumatic supply houses in the UK, and our international sales

and service network includes interests in Europe, Asia, both the Americas and Australasia.

All this is but a part of the total IMI activity. The facts speak for themselves...

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1973 turnover £275 million.

IMI is continuing to expand logically and methodically into finished products and consumer goods whilst maintaining its well established interests in refined and wrought

metals. Each company in the IMI group is free to decide how best to win its markets. Each company has the support of IMI's corporate resources. Each is building sales overseas—to the tune last year of £76 million.

Building Products

Heat Exchange Products

Fluid Power Products

General Engineering Products

Zip Fasteners

Refined and Wrought Metals

IMI means more than metal

Imperial Metal Industries Limited · Birmingham · England

HOME NEWS

NHS may reach point of no return, thirteen leaders of medicine sayBy John Roper
Medical Reporter

The presidents and deans of 13 royal colleges and faculties of medicine have warned the Government that lack of money for the National Health Service has now led to a real danger that standards may decline to a point from which recovery would be impossible within a foreseeable term.

They have sent a four-page document to Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, saying that the Government must decide on priorities. They say it must be made clear to the public what proportion of the national Budget can be allocated to the NHS and what limitations may have to be imposed on care and facilities.

It is clear that the medical profession is so concerned about our morale in the NHS, the danger that more and more professional people will emigrate and ancillary workers upon whom the service depends will leave it for better paid jobs outside the service, that it wants to make it abundantly clear that the situation lies at the Government's door.

Mr Rodney Smith, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, said yesterday that one way was to say that we had reached the limit of health service income from direct taxation and we now had to look at other ways of financing it. The other was to allow standards to slide. He did not think it possible to rearrange resources. The service would not disintegrate but gradual erosion might mean that a point would be reached when something more abrupt happened.

Since the health service began there was greater medical knowledge and much more help from technological developments. But there was a gap between what could be done and what was done. Because of the underfinancing of the service he was sure that, for example, emigration of doctors was now more of a risk than it should be.

He had a strong feeling that the presidents and deans of faculties should develop a dialogue with union leaders who looked after the interests of the non-professionals who were so vital to the NHS. The "them and us" attitude must be got rid of. Unless all workers in the NHS, including the non-professionals, could see that their pay and circumstances were as good as comparable jobs outside the service, the NHS would never be happy and contented.

The presidents' and deans' document offers expert and informed advice to the Government in assessing health factors. Mr Smith said that included discussion of priorities, such as what was to be done about waiting lists, the place of district general hospitals and community hospitals and the difference between regions in the time patients spent in hospital with a particular illness.

Pressure on staff at all levels in the service had been such that the traditional friendly relationships within hospitals had been seriously eroded, even to the point where some workers had been prepared to take action against others in order to compel them to support industrial action. That was one of the worst threats to the service.

Universities plead for early government aidBy Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

The vice-chancellors of Britain's universities feel that their financial future is so uncertain that yesterday they took the unprecedented step of publishing a "crucial memorandum" which they have sent to Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

The committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals calls for funds by next January to meet increased costs in universities' running expenses caused by inflation.

They estimate that just to keep even they need an increased grant of about £24m for this financial year.

The memorandum says: "Unless the Government comes to their aid, the universities will then reach the critical point at which they will not have enough money to pay their staff and suppliers."

Sir Arthur Arnott, chairman of the committee, told a press conference in London: "If the money does not materialize we shall have to revise our estimates for increased student places."

At the moment vice-chancellors are ruling out publicly the possibility of a reduction in students and making academic staff redundant.

Sir Arthur said: "Unless we know by January we shall be in grave difficulty as to how we can do our duty towards the new entrants. If we do not know, I expect universities will make plans to keep faith with the sixth forms of schools. But I hope and expect that a minimum grant will be made."

The memorandum points out that government cuts last Christmas in grants to compensate for inflation have resulted in a £30m loss. At the time the Government estimated that the cuts were worth £14m. But the vice-chancellors maintain that that was pegged to 8 per cent

inflation. The rate for universities is running at more than 20 per cent.

Sir Arthur estimated that the cost of energy supplies at Manchester University, where he is vice-chancellor, had risen from £250 to £1m since February.

Threshold increases have cost the universities an extra £5m this year, and national insurance contributions have added another £3m. Universities now expect to go at least £15m into debit by the end of the year with individual universities having deficits of up to £1m.

Sir Arthur admitted that the likely number of university students had dropped, from the 1977 projection of 306,000 to about 275,000, but that did not make for great savings. He said: "No downward adjustment of the original target can produce a pro rata reduction in current costs".

The present number of university students is 255,000, 8,000 more than last year.

Sir Arthur said the difficulties faced by universities in housing the increased numbers were far more critical than ever before. That was also because of a slowing in college building, because of an expansion of other colleges of higher education, and because of new legislation which was deterring landlords from letting rooms.

The vice-chancellors fear that the Government is unsympathetic to their plight. That is in fact, the case. I understand that the Secretary of State's reply to them is likely to point out that everyone in the education sector is in the same boat and it is not the Department of Education's job to interfere in the financing of the universities, which is done by the University Grants Committee through the Treasury.

Britain's universities are likely to keep their place at the back of the queue despite the urgent tones of yesterday's memorandum.

Mr Frank Chappie, president

M62 bomb trial told of gelignite tests

A Home Office explosives expert told the M62 coach bomb trial at Wakefield Crown Court yesterday that damage to the coach and carriageway was consistent with a charge of 20 to 25lb of high explosive of the gelignite type.

Mr George Berryman, of the Home Office research establishment at Woolwich, said that such an explosive was composed of nitroglycerine and another substance.

Dr Frank Skuse, Home Office analytical chemist, had said earlier that fingernail swabs taken from Judith Theresa Ward after her arrest in Liverpool showed nitroglycerine traces. The chemical was a constituent of some commercial explosives. Tests on a blue duffel bag, which the prosecution has alleged was bought by her, also showed contact with the explosive, he said.

Cross-examined by Mr Andrew Rankin, QC, for the defence, Mr Berryman agreed that it would be possible for nitroglycerine contamination to be passed from one person to another via an object.

Miss Ward, aged 25, of Middlesex Road, Birmingam, Stockport, Greater Manchester, is accused of murdering 12 people who died after an explosion in an army coach on the motorway in February. She is also charged with causing the coach explosion; and causing explosions at the National Defence College, Latimer, and at Euston railway station, London. She has pleaded not guilty.

The trial continues today.

New court application over Beatles' cash

The dispute over the multi-million pound business built upon the talents of the Beatles returned to the High Court yesterday.

Mr Allen Klein and his company, ABKCO Industries Inc, who at one stage managed the affairs of the group before it split, asked a judge to strike out large parts of a claim brought against him by John Lennon, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Yoko Ono Lennon and 28 English and American companies associated with the Beatles.

The substance of the claim is that ABKCO and Mr Klein did not ensure that Mr Lennon, Mr Harrison and Mr Starr understood what they were doing when they signed management agreements with Mr Klein in 1969, and failed to advise them

properly on their business and financial affairs.

Mr Klein contends that the three former Beatles knew what they were doing, and that allegations they have made against him are inconsistent with admissions they made in an earlier court case.

That case, started four years ago, was Paul McCartney's action against the other Beatles and Mr Klein to break up the Beatles' partnership. In March, 1971, Mr McCartney succeeded in getting a receiver appointed to manage the Beatles' business pending the outcome of that action.

When he appointed the receiver, Mr Justice Stamp said there was no evidence that Mr Klein had pocketed any of the Beatles' money.

The hearing continues today.

'Let nurses prescribe pill'

By a Staff Reporter

Nurses, midwives and health visitors should be empowered to prescribe oral contraceptives, according to a group of prominent doctors connected with family planning. A letter in the *British Medical Journal* today signed by Dr Michael Smith, Chief Medical Officer of the Family Planning Association, Sir Stanley Clayton, President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, and 22 other leading gynaecologists and research workers says that while nurses who have had appropriate training could dispense the pill, doctors should

continue to supervise and see any complicated cases.

Accessibility to oral contraceptives is one factor determining how widely they are used, the letter says, and the present requirement for a doctor's prescription is a burden to an overstretched medical service.

Support for that view is given in a leading article in *The Lancet*, but it points out that while the pill was given approval by the Royal College of General Practitioners' report earlier this year, there are still doubts about its long-term safety. It is too soon to take the pill off prescription altogether. *The Lancet* says:



Celebrating Arthur Askey's 50 years in show business at a Variety Club luncheon in London yesterday are, from left, Ernie Wise, Leslie Crowther, Eric Morecambe, Danny La Rue, Derek Nimmo, Eric Sykes and Jimmy Edwards.

Liberals discuss tax defiance to aid policyBy Geoffrey Smith
Political Staff

A proposal is being discussed at the highest levels of the Liberal Party for withholding tax payments in an attempt to enforce electoral reform.

The idea originally mooted was for individual members and, it was hoped, supporters of the party, not to pay income tax in protest against the inadequacy of representation of Liberals in the House of Commons under the present electoral system.

This modern variation on the theme of "no taxation without representation" has been modified to the suggestion that those with a tax bill to settle should pay £5 less than the demand, and that those on PAYE should apply to have their tax code adjusted accordingly.

The thought, presumably, is that that would put the bureaucratic machine to flight if used in an attempt to curb inflation. Yet here are very senior Liberals pondering the possibility of flouting these same laws in an attempt to bring about electoral reform.

Not everyone within the party feels that it would be wise to launch any sort of major public campaign on electoral reform. This is not what the public are really interested in, the Young Liberals and others say.

But nobody who attended last Sunday's meeting of the Liberal Council could doubt that in general Liberal feelings are running very high on the iniquities of the present electoral system. Listening to some of the speeches one was inclined to feel that beneath a Liberal bosom there must beat the heart of a suffragette. There was some talk of chaining themselves to railings and other historic forms of protest. To withhold payment of tax might seem more in the modern idiom. But some senior Liberals regard the idea with considerable reserve. It is not so much a plan, they point out, as more than a proposition.

If the scheme does go ahead, Mr Thorpe's powers of exposition will be tested to the full in showing that there has been no inconsistency in Liberal attitudes to the tax laws. Mr Pardoe's anti-inflation tax, on

which Liberal policy placed so much emphasis during the election campaign, would depend for its success on there being an exceptional public respect for these laws.

Trade unionists might go on strike against the Industrial Relations Act and ignore the legal authority of Phase Three, it was argued, but it was not clear that they would not be flouted if used in an

attempt to curb inflation. Yet here are very senior Liberals

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In city driving, with low engine speeds, much of the lead is trapped by the exhaust system and the particles are emitted in quantity only by an accelerating vehicle.

It also shows that carbon monoxide in busy streets several times exceeds recommended air pollution limits for short periods, coinciding with rises in the amount of lead particles from car exhausts. The quantities of lead detected varied from 4.9 micrograms to 816 micrograms.

Mr Stewart said there were no published air quality standards for lead particles. The extent of retention, absorption and physiological effects of such lead brought into the lungs had yet to be established.

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Advantage is restored to power station engineers with 10% pay agreementBy Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

A 10 per cent pay agreement which reestablishes pay differentials for 23,000 skilled power station engineers has been settled by the end of the year.

The agreement, between the Electrical Council and the Electrical Power Engineers Association (EPEA), backdated to August 1, new rates ranging from £2,425 for newly qualified engineers to £6,500 for deputy superintendents of middle-sized power stations.

From the council's point of view, the settlement, which will cost an extra £10m a year, is within the framework of a "ghost" reconstruction scheme worked out with the union in February but put to one side until statutory pay controls were abolished.

The power engineers settled for an 8 per cent rise under Phase Three on the understanding that the new pay structure would be implemented when government policy allowed.

The question of the social contract scarcely arises, therefore, but both sides would probably justify the agreement on the allowable ground that it reforms an anomalous wage structure.

New approach: The electricians' union is trying to win backing for a demand for pay rises for 106,000 power station workers, five months before their present agreement is due to expire (our Labour Staff writer).

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Any moves to end the bargaining between the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation are likely to come from the union side.

Recession in the chemical industry in the early 1970s had drastically reduced jobs for graduates. Demand from industry was rising but was not being met, and that had serious consequences for the country.

Because of falling numbers chemistry departments were being scrutinized for short-term economies, he said.

The economic future of the country was not dependent on the number of lawyers produced, Professor McWhinnie said. Construction of science departments might seem to make economic sense in the short term, but in the long term it might be disastrous.

British Rail is also extending its cheap fares for under 26s to Continental cities. Apart from Paris (£11.80 return) and Brussels (£11), there will be cheap returns to Amsterdam at £17 return on specified sailings.

The Amsterdam excursion is open to people over sixty as well.

The only regular ferry service between Britain and Portugal, by Southern Ferries' 11,500-ton Eagle, is to be withdrawn on November 1 because of a "drastic and dramatic" fall in bookings.

About 600 passengers who have already booked on the Eagle to Lisbon, Algiers, or Tangier after November 1 will have their money refunded. Where possible, they will be offered alternative passages,

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HOME NEWS

Inquiry into death of boy aged four criticizes poor communications between local authority services

Martin Huckerby
shortcomings on the part of local authority services in Essex are disclosed by the report of an inquiry into the death of Max Pizzani, aged four, who weighed only 15lb when he died in hospital at Basildon in August last year. The boy's parents pleaded guilty in court to wilful neglect of the boy and were each sentenced to two years' imprisonment, although sentence was reduced on appeal to 18 months.

A official inquiry, made up of members of Essex County Council and Essex Area Health Authority but with an independent chairman, was set up just this year and its report, which was due to be published on October 29, is published today after information about its recommendations had leaked to the home.

The inquiry concludes that the case indicates poor communications between services. Much is points out that some of the services were undergoing reorganization. It says the failure to have a formal, regular case conference was to have serious repercussions in this instance. It recommends that such a conference, as set down in April by the Department of Health and Social Security, should be set up in the area. Such a conference been

General Synod debate on divorce to reopen

By Clifford Longley

Religious Affairs Correspondent

The question of the remarriage in church of divorcees which appeared to have been settled in favour of "no change" last November, is to be reopened by the General Synod of the Church of England in its next meeting next month. The House of Bishops has asked for a fresh debate.

Last November a procedural tangle produced a result that, in the opinion of many members, did not really represent the majority opinion. Led by the Right Rev Robert Runcie, Bishop of St Albans, these critics of the decision complained that majority opinion favoured further debate within the dioceses, at rank-and-file level. At a crucial stage of the proceedings an amendment to that effect was withdrawn, leaving members with a stark choice between changing the present rule or reaffirming. At present the church's official policy bars divorcees from a second church wedding.

Two motions have been accepted for debate at the synod, which begins on November 5. The first repeats the argument put forward by the Bishop of St Albans last autumn, that diocesan synods "should be asked to indicate whether they consider that an alteration in the present marriage discipline of the Church of England in order to permit remarriage of divorced persons in church (under appropriate conditions and with due safeguards) is theologically defensible and pastorally desirable, and to report their views to the secretary general by May 31, 1976."

A new aspect of the question will be brought before the General Synod, the far more radical issue of whether the Church of England can any longer recognize civil marriages.

Cheetham said: "I cannot see that it is in the interests of the government to let government perish; but it is prepared to give us resources we need, local government as we know it may be difficult to survive."

He rejected the argument that government subsidies mean greater government. If central government gave grants whose money is anyway? "Our,"

to achieve financial independence rating authority need to discover a goldmine.

There was no practical

argument that if local auth-

orities could be met by additions to central taxes,

uses of about 10 per cent were more likely.

Cheetham also described increased assistance to local ratepayers as "a cost to disguise the real impact burden being forced upon rates". Not every non-local ratepayer was automatically rich or making high

profits. It would seem that for politicians the domestic rate was cushioned against the impact of race.

But the local authority themselves received relatively little towards the actual of their services and the burden was borne by non-local ratepayers.

Most of those in local government believe that domestic merely aggravated the features and inequities of the rating system", Mr Cheetham said.

Lana Gray dead

Lana Gray, aged 31, sister of Lord Cromer, former Governor of the Bank of England, and wife of Mr Gray, was found dead with throat wounds at her home in Offham, near Maidstone, Kent, yesterday. Kent said foul play was not ruled out.

The cost of chips with everything

Food prices

Hugh Clayton

Prices of sausages, baked beans and chips are to be increased. Potatoes are costing because the wet weather is making them harder to dig up. The price of frozen prepared chips is set to rise by at least 10 per cent. The producers of baked beans and Cross & Blackwell will soon be charging an penny for a large tin.

largest sausage factories in the country believe that the price will find no grounds for increases. The price of sausages and pies, Bowyers and Halls said yesterday that ad applied for increases.

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Prices of sausages, baked beans and chips are to be increased. Potatoes are costing because the wet weather is making them harder to dig up. The price of frozen prepared chips is set to rise by at least 10 per cent. The producers of baked beans and Cross & Blackwell will soon be charging an penny for a large tin.

largest sausage factories

6
WEST EUROPE

Spanish professional group forms leftist political party

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Oct 17

A group of prominent Spanish professional men announced here today that they have formed a social democratic party in Spain, where all political parties other than the Falange-based National Movement are prohibited.

The founders include Senor Manuel Diaz-Alegría, a lawyer and the son of the recently dismissed chief of the Spanish joint chiefs of staff; Senor Dionisio Ridruejo, a writer who composed the words of the Falange anthem, but who more than a decade ago joined Spanish democratic factions; Senor Antonio García-López, a prominent economist; Senor Fernando Chueca Goitia, one of the nation's most respected architects; Senor Fernando García la Higuera, a sociologist and marketing expert; and seven others, comprising a university professor, a publisher, a businessman, a sociologist, a lawyer and two economists.

The party, known as the Spanish Social Democratic Union (USDE), is, according to its programme, "parallel to the other European Social Democratic Parties". The founders said that the programme is subject to revision as soon as it becomes possible in Spain to hold a general assembly without police interference.

They said the party is controlled by the 12-man board and each member has an equal vote. The board may be enlarged as other political groups are incorporated.

They refused to use the regime's word "association" to disguise the nature of their organization, despite the ban on political parties. A spokesman for the USDE said that if General Franco's Government attempted to interfere with their non-violent political activities, the Government would risk losing whatever confidence it had gained from

Spaniards who believed in its promises of liberalization.

"We want to be like a brother", said one of the founders, "illegal, scorned if necessary, but tolerated".

A spokesman revealed that they were counting on a liberal faction within the Spanish Army, including "a very decisive and important minority", to refrain from interfering with the future installation of a democracy in Spain. They refused to name the military figures involved, "because we do not want to see this faction dismantled".

The new party is the first to be organized inside Spain with public announcement, and the first to openly declare itself as a political party. It is open to Spaniards of all political convictions, except, the founders said, communists and fascists.

Plans in its platform include complete separation of Church and State, free trade unions, a vote for all Spaniards over 18 years of age, equality of the sexes before the law, a divorce law, free education, popular suffrage and other democratic freedoms.

The new party, while defining itself as left of centre in European terms, renounces adhesion to any dogmatic ideology. Communists are excluded from direct membership at present, but they are indirectly in communion with the party.

Known political figures of the usually tolerated part of the Spanish opposition who are believed to form a part of or share the views of the Social Democratic Union are Senor Mariano Gil Robles, former Defence Minister in the second Spanish Republic, and Profesor Josep Rius Jimenez, former Education Minister and the rallying point of Spanish Crisis Democrats.

The public announcement of the creation of this illegal party, naming the names of its founders, is the most significant overt non-violent action of any opposition group in Spain in many years.



Full house at the first official parking area for cyclists in the centre of Paris.

Madrid paper was 'duped'

Madrid, Oct 17.—The Spanish

newspaper *Nuevo Diario* today retracted a story about the formation here of a government in exile by right-wing Portuguese. It said it had been duped by persons apparently interested in disturbing good relations between Spain and Portugal.

The newspaper published a statement yesterday from the

alleged exile government and named 11 of its "ministers". However, the man named as Information Minister, Senor Francisco Dutra Faria, founder of the Portuguese news agency ANI, denied that he knew anything about it.

The Spanish Government also announced that it would not let any Portuguese exile government operate in Spain.—Reuter.

Bizarre end-of-the-world vigil starts hunt for former priest whose followers included a duke Sect under spell of 'Christ on Earth'

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Oct 17

Police are trying to find a former Italian priest, Don Rino Ferraro, aged 51, who is leader of a sect awaiting the end of the world. Don Ferraro, who calls himself "Christ on Earth", was a follower of the late Michael Caine, the French "Anti-Pope".

He disappeared earlier this week after 17 of his followers, mostly Italian and including six children, had kept a vigil in the main car park at Geneva airport in expectation of the world ending last Sunday.

They had been there, sleeping in their five cars with Italian plates at least since October 10. After noticing that the vehicles never moved and always seemed to be occupied, police investigated on Monday night.

They found that one member of the sect, a West German woman, aged 62, had died of natural causes, a post mortem showed five days previously.

The others had decided not to hand the corpse over to the authorities and were keeping it in one of the cars, in which two of them also slept.

When Sunday came, and the world was still in existence, the group's funds had run out. They were unable to leave the car park as one of the vehicles had broken down and, in any case, they had no money to pay the parking charges.

Sleeping in another car were a wealthy Italian couple, Duke Ludovico Melzi, aged 68, and his 62-year-old wife, Countess Bianca Maria, who vanished from their sixteenth-century home near Milan four months ago.

After complaints by their relatives in Italy, Swiss police had been searching for Don Ferraro. The duke's lands in Bergamo are valued at several million pounds.

The family accused the former priest of putting the couple under his spell. They succeeded in having his four bank accounts blocked, but not before the couple had drawn

out £20,000 from their Milan account on June 22.

Lugano police were also acting on a complaint from the uncle of four of the younger members of the sect who had been missing since the same date.

Don Ferraro, whom Italian police have charged with swindling a person not in full possession of his faculties, broke with Michael Caine in 1970 to found his own sect, "The Kingdom of Mary Co-Redemptrix". He claims to have visions of Christ and drove with a red Mercedes. He has been labelled "another Rasputin" by some Italian newspapers.

Until 1969, he was the centre of Vintebbio, a hamlet near Bergamo.

When the German woman died, while the sect was awaiting Doomsday in the car park, Don Ferraro apparently went off with the stated purpose of informing her relatives. The rest were waiting for his return when the police intervened.

Portugal urges UN to lift embargoes

From Peter Strafford
New York, Oct 17

President Costa Gomes of Portugal today called for help and understanding from the international community for Portugal's "peaceful revolution". There was no longer any reason to cast anathemas at Portugal, he said, appealing for a quick lifting of all the United Nations embargoes and restrictions.

"The pre-democratic situation in which we are living contains considerable economic and financial difficulties which will best be overcome if the democratic countries of the world show a material and moral solidarity which is rapid, brotherly and fair in its financial and political price", President Gomes said.

He was speaking to the General Assembly of the United Nations, the first Portuguese head of state to do so. He was given a standing ovation by delegations both before and after his speech.

The new Portuguese regime, Senor Gomes went on, was determined to maintain a process of democratization at home. It would "restore to the Portuguese people their lost dignity by creating more just conditions of life through pluralistic democratic institutions legitimized by the freely expressed will of the people".

Abroad, Portugal would continue "the irreversible and definitive process of decolonization". It would keep "sufficient flexibility of spirit to safeguard the interests of the peoples to be decolonized".

There was nothing in Portugal to justify "alarmist generalizations based on minor social disturbances which the provisional Government has always healed and overcome". The President invited members of the General Assembly to visit Portugal and verify this for themselves.

Italy's economic planner resigns

Rome, Oct 17.—Dr Giorgio Ruffolo, Italy's top economic planner, has resigned because of what he called the impossibility of implementing planning decisions.

In his letter of resignation he said these difficulties had worsened lately, coinciding with Italy's economic and political crisis.—Reuter.

Brandt invitation to Labour Party

Treysa, West Germany, Oct 17.—Herr Brandt, leader of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), said today that he had invited Britain's Labour Party to join talks on European issues.

He said that any justifiable British proposals for shaping the EEC should be considered, but the Community must be strengthened rather than weakened.—Reuter.

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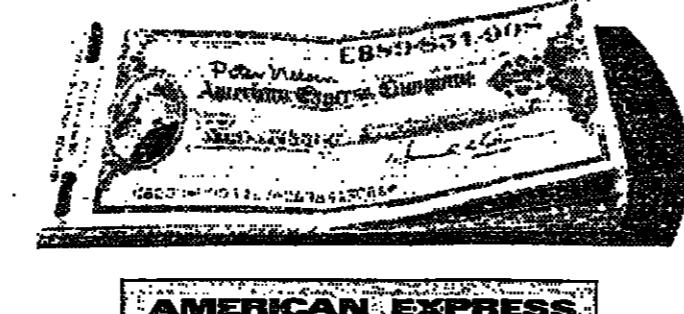
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Call to speed up decision on EEC centre

From Craig Seton
Parliamentary Staff
Strasbourg, Oct 17

A European Parliament study group has attempted to force the pace over a decision on a single centre for the various dispersed European Community institutions with the publication today of a report critical of the present situation.

Mr Peter Kirk, leader of the European Conservative group, made it clear at a press conference here that some parliamentarians were becoming increasingly impatient at the lack of progress, and had even considered bringing an action before the European Court of Justice to make some headway.

Their report recommended that Parliament should conduct a campaign aimed at increasing public awareness of the importance of the Community having a single centre.

Asked to explain why falls

Brussels explains gap in price of beef

From David Cross
Brussels, Oct 17

Although there has been a sharp fall in market prices received by beef producers in all parts of the European Community in recent months, housewives in Britain, Belgium and France have been paying considerably higher prices in the shops.

This trend emerges from a reply by the European Commission to a question submitted by a member of the European Parliament and published in Brussels today.

The Commission says that shop prices for beef rose 3 per cent in Britain, 5 per cent in Belgium and 7 per cent in France during the 12 months up to June, 1974. In Denmark beef prices remained stable, but in West Germany and the Netherlands they fell by 2 and 6 per cent respectively.

Asked to explain why falls

African likely to be new Unesco head

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Oct 17

The most important task before the general conference of Unesco, which opened in Paris today, with more than 500 delegations from 132 countries, is the replacement of M. René Maheu, who has held the post of Director-General for 12 years.

Under him Unesco has developed into an effective instrument for the advancement of education and scientific and technical training in the developing countries.

M. Amadou Maïta M'Bow, of Senegal, has been unanimously proposed to the conference as his successor by the executive board of 40 members. M. M'Bow was formerly assistant Minister

of Education of Senegal, and is at present Unesco's Assistant Director-General for Education.

He will be the first African to occupy the post and there is no doubt that he will pursue M. Maheu's policy of placing the main emphasis in the work of the organization on aid to developing countries, which now account for two-thirds of its resources.

Three new members are making their entry into the organization on the occasion of this conference: Guinea-Bissau, North Korea and San Marino.

Representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization and of the African liberation movement have been invited by the executive board to send

observers, with right of speech, to this conference. A vote on this invitation will be taken on Tuesday.

Fifty-three countries voted today for the admission of South Vietnam to Unesco; 34 were against and 28 abstained in the first political decision.

In another vote, 48 countries voted for the continued membership of Chile, 24 against and 25 abstained. The delegates of China, Albania and Romania left the hall while the personal vote count was being held.

The North Korean delegation was not present.

The Turkish delegation proposed that the Cyprus delegation was not representative, but there was no vote and the Director General ruled that their credentials had been accepted.

Airline closes routes

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Oct 17

Air Inter, the French domestic airline, has closed three services under an austerity plan to save money.

M. Marcel Caraville, the State Secretary for Transport, told the National Assembly yesterday that the services were Paris-Lille, Paris-Lyon, and Paris-Belfort.

The closing of other services such as Paris-Nîmes and Strasbourg-Nîmes, which are run at a loss, may follow on November 1. The company has a

deficit of about £400,000 this year, or 20 per cent more than its capital.

Since the beginning of the year, the fall in traffic has averaged six per cent, while forecasts on which several years' investments had been based expected an increase in traffic of 15 per cent. This fall in traffic is coupled with the dramatic increase in fuel costs.

In addition, the company has to pay for the purchase of 10 new Dassault Mercure aircraft which it very reluctantly agreed to buy.

Journalist held in £2m fraud case

Geneva, Oct 17.—Mr Serge Locatelli, a 35-year-old Swiss journalist, has been arrested here on charges of defrauding a Geneva banker of 15 million Swiss francs (more than £2m).

He was alleged to have obtained the money to finance films for Italian and Swiss television. Mr Locatelli denied the accusations when questioned by an investigating magistrate yesterday.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Replay of Nixon tape makes court burst into laughter

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Oct 17
One of the tapes of Mr Nixon, the former President, was played in public for the first time today in the Watergate over-uper trial. It brought home more clearly than anything else the conspiratorial nature of the Nixon White House.

It was a recording of a conversation on September 15, 1972, between Mr Nixon, Mr H. R. Haldeman, his chief of staff, and one of the defendants at the trial, and Mr John Dean, who was then Mr Nixon's counsel and who is now the witness.

The White House version of transcripts of the tapes, including this one, was released last week and another version, including passages which the White House had omitted, was put out by the House judiciary committee.

There were therefore no surprises. But hearing the President say to Mr Dean: "You start trying to button it up as well as you can and hope for the best," and congratulate him on a good work in containing the image from the Watergate, adds a new dimension. Everyone in court was wiped with earphones. For the most part the tape was dable but it was necessary to read with a transcript to understand it properly.

There was a great deal of clapping and noise, bangs and thumps, some sneezes and scratches, as the court burst into laughter. At one stage, the President was speaking on a telephone to Mr Clark McGregor, the campaign manager and was clearly heard telling him: "Well, don't bug

anyone without asking me." The court burst into laughter at that point.

Mr Nixon's voice was deep and loud, Mr Haldeman's very light and Mr John Dean, sitting listening to himself in the witness box, sounds just as monotonous and boring on tape as he does in the flesh.

The morning session was once again delayed by lawyers' arguments.

The dozen or so defence lawyers produce an average of one objection and one motion for trial or acquittal a day each.

The most notable of the lawyers, Mr John Wilson, for Mr Haldeman, muttered darkly at one point that he would put one of the Judge's rulings into his error bag. Most of the motions and objections are being made with an eye to an appeal, when the lawyers will endeavour to overturn any convictions on the grounds of mistakes made by the judge.

Washington, Oct 17.—Mr Nixon today sought a court order to prevent the White House from releasing any more of his tapes, except those already under subpoena or needed for the Watergate trial.

Mr Herbert Miller, Mr Nixon's lawyer, said that his client wanted the right to review material sought by any new subpoenas to determine whether the tapes are protected by executive privilege or his right of privacy.

In view of a large number of pending law suits where the documents might be sought as evidence, Mr Miller expected that more subpoenas would be issued.—UPI.

Mr Ford wins the day on military aid to Turkey

Washington, Oct 17.—President Ford today vetoed for the second time a controversial measure to cut off military aid to Turkey, and the House of Representatives promptly upheld his move by a narrow majority.

short while after the President rejected the proposal to cut off Turkish aid, the House, 11 heavy abstentions, voted 81 on the move to override the veto, failing two votes short of the necessary two-thirds needed to overturn the rejection. Once the House failed to override the veto, leaders were ed to work out a new compromise.

Accused Swapo leader says police hit him

Our Correspondent
Windhoek, Oct 17
The national chairman of the West African Peoples' organization, (Swapo), Mr Idi Meroro, aged 57, said in Windhoek court this week he had been assaulted by police while in custody. Mr Meroro, a businessman of Afrikaans, Windhoek, is facing a charge of possessing sedition literature. He was arrested on February 7 and was incommunicado under the戒严令. He told the court that he had been required to stand throughout interrogation from early morning to sunset. Refused permission to go to the lavatory, he was told to wet his pants. A Mr Schoon struck him for impertinence. Earlier evidence, a police officer, Major G. J. Stadler said Meroro, whose cell was measured by 10ft, had not been taken out for exercise from late March and some in June. The trial was adjourned until January 13.

Murder charges against Greek officers

Our Correspondent
Athens, Oct 17
Constantine Fatouros, the chief public prosecutor, announced today that 17 police and Army officers have been charged with torturing political prisoners during the years of the military dictatorship. The formal charges of "repeated use of authority" and "causing serious physical injury" were lodged against 13 officers of the security police, one Army, and three officers of notorious Boyd's military academy, near Athens. The charges relate to the specific cases of persons who gave evidence of treatment while under torture.

Fatouros said if further charges emerged in the course of pre-trial investigation, he has now been opened.

Israel Government seeks help from religious party

Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, Oct 17
Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister, tonight met leaders of the National Religious Party to invite them to join his Government. His decision to co-opt the NRP was approved by the party's central committee last night.

The 12 seats in the 120-seat Knesset, the NRP could increase Government's strength to giving it a majority of 26 of the present two. It is to accept the portfolios of Religious Affairs, Interior and Social Welfare, left vacant in the election in December.

The hope is that the party will rejoin the coalition which

India asks US for more food assistance

From Michael Hornsby
Delhi, Oct 17

With several Indian states reeling under the scourge of famine, the Government in Delhi has swallowed its pride and is discreetly negotiating a resumption of food aid from America to help to offset an expected decline of at least 10 per cent in the autumn grain crop.

This has been a painful, and potentially politically embarrassing decision for Mrs Gandhi, the Prime Minister, who rashly declared in 1972, after a run of good harvests, that India would never have to rely on American food aid again.

From 1956 to 1972 the United States supplied India with 60 million tonnes of grain on concessionary terms under the so-called PL 480 agreement.

This provided for repayment into a rupee account on which the American Embassy was permitted to draw to meet certain of its expenses.

The arrangement was held by nationalists in India to be demeaning for a sovereign country. The American claims in rupees on the Indian economy did in fact grow to impossibly huge proportions, and last December Washington effectively wrote off the greater part of the Indian debt.

America has abolished the system of local currency payment for food aid. But even payment in dollars, concessionary supplies of grain on easy



A starving Indian, too weak to move, waits to die.

repayment and low interest terms, such as the Indians are now seeking, would apparently still bear the politically emotive PL 480 level.

The Americans have not so far responded very sympathetically to India's difficulties, partly because they nurse a grievance over what they feel to have been Indian ingratitude in the past. There is also the practical factor that the United States is no longer producing the huge grain surpluses of the 1960s.

The United States is understood to have indicated its willingness to supply 500,000 tonnes on concessionary terms, which is not much when set against a possible total Indian import requirement in 1974-75 of 10 million tonnes. (Delhi is believed to have arranged already for the purchase of several million tonnes on a straight commercial basis from various suppliers.)

Food aid is certain to feature prominently in talks here later this month between Mrs Gandhi and Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, though this may not be admitted publicly.

Mrs Gandhi is expected to press for a substantially larger American commitment.

An unknown factor in the food import equation is the possibility of a repetition of last year's loan of two million tonnes of wheat by the Soviet Union. So far all the signs are to the contrary.

India's mission to Moscow, led by Mr D. P. Dhar, the Planning Minister, came away empty-handed.

Low-interest loans: The International Monetary Fund proposes to provide larger amounts on lower interest to the developing countries. This facility will be available as a temporary measure to enable the developing countries to tide over their difficulties on account of the oil price rises.

This was stated in Delhi today by Dr Johannes Witteveen, managing director and chairman of the board of governors of the IMF. He said the fund itself could not find long-term solutions. Nevertheless, it was considering whether something could be done next year to lighten the burden of the poorer countries.

The IMF was working on some changes in its articles of incorporation to bring about restructuring in its operations to make it more useful.

Bengal famine, page 16

American expelled

Rio de Janeiro, Oct 17.—Mr Frederick Morris, a former Methodist missionary from America, accused of subversion and reported to have been tortured by Brazilian security police, was expelled from Brazil last night.—Reuter.

Western reporter attends Soviet trial

Moscow, Oct 17.—Soviet officials, in an unprecedented move, today allowed a Western reporter and leading dissidents to attend the opening of the trial for careless driving of a Jewish activist, Mr Andrei Sakharov—and one of the United States lawyers were let through.

It was the first time in recent years that a foreign reporter or a legal observer from the West had been allowed to attend a trial alleged by Soviet dissidents to be politically motivated.

Also allowed in was another Jewish activist, Mr Alexander Goldfarb. He speaks English and was to act as interpreter.

A total of 10 witnesses went in the hearing.—Reuter.

Australia is to run down Woomera range

From Our Correspondent
Melbourne, Oct 17

Activities at the Woomera rocket range will be run down when current British work there ceases. Mr Lance Barnard, the Australian Defence Minister, told Parliament in Canberra today.

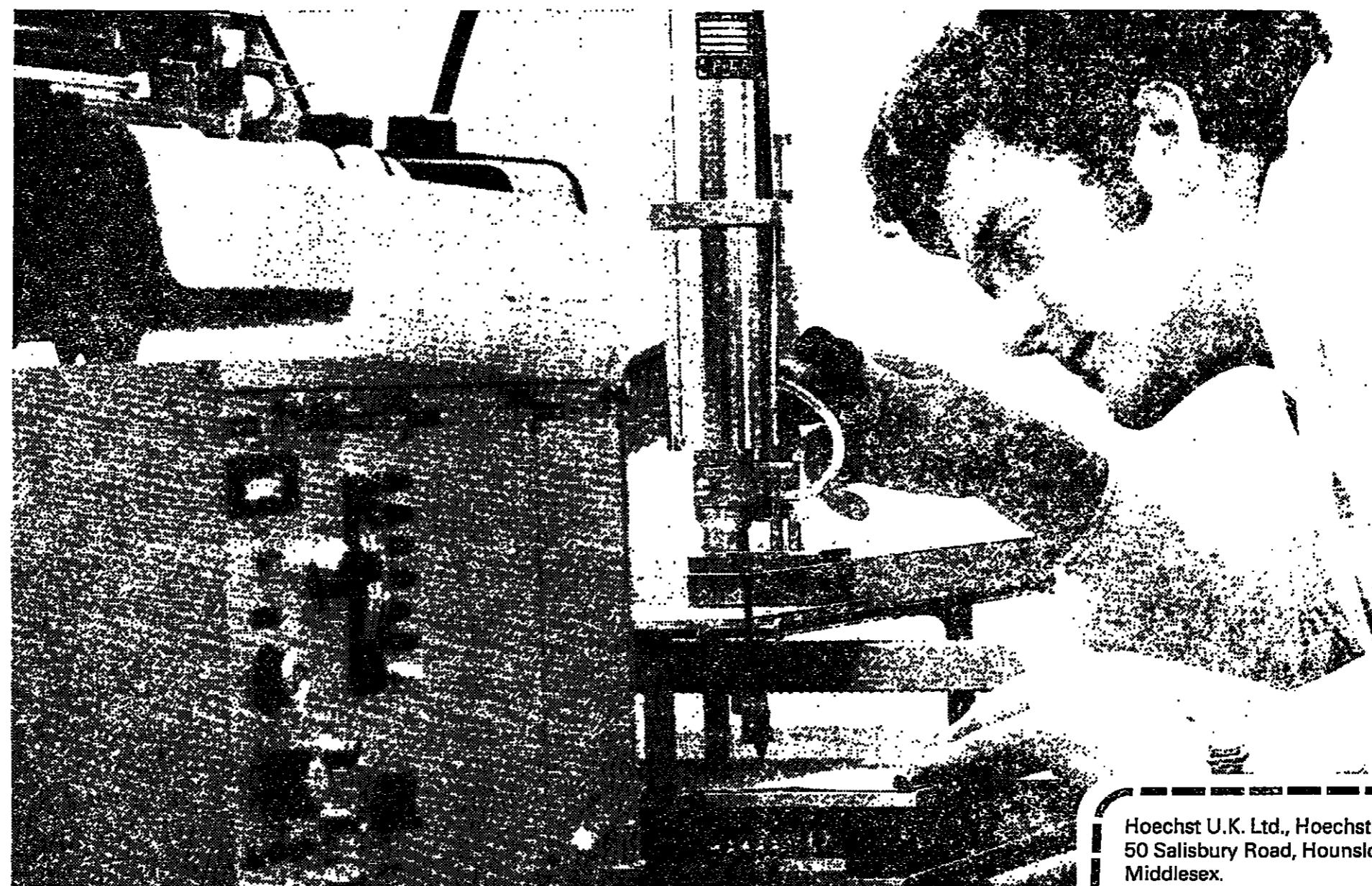
Woomera would continue to operate but at a reduced level, and staff at the range would be found new jobs elsewhere in the public service. Work at the range would be frozen but the base would not be closed down in case it was needed in the future.

Peking scoffs at Mao stroke report

From David Bonavia
Peking, Oct 17

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said today that a recent report in a London newspaper regarding Chairman Mao Tse-tung's health was "out and out rumour-mongering".

The ministry's spokesman made no further comment on the report, published by *The Daily Telegraph*, which alleged that Chairman Mao suffered a severe stroke at the end of September, although he met President Bongo of Gabon on October 5.



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Dorothy : 84, lives in appalling conditions: Outside toilet, house very dilapidated. Active but depressed.

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George : Homeless, and only able to find temporary accommodation.

Betsy : 82, living on suffering, in return for housework she is now too old to do.

Mary : An active 80, hates the prospect of being a 'vegetable' in a geriatric centre.

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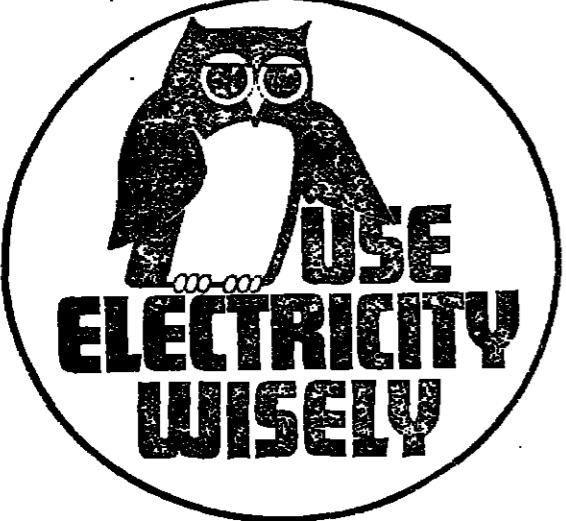
Applicants must be UK-based producers of goods or providers of services but there is no limit as to size.

For full information about eligibility and application forms, get in touch now with The Secretary, The Office of The Queen's Award to Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Telephones: 01-2222277, Telex: 27366.

Please indicate whether your application will be in respect of exports or technological innovation or both.

The closing date for applications is 31st October, 1974.

Number 1 in a series



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From around £25 you can put 3" insulation in an average 3-bedroomed semi—not much when you think of the future savings in your heating bill.

The Electricity Council, England & Wales

OVERSEAS

President Ford tells subcommittee he pardoned Mr Nixon because of 'urgent needs of a rising nation'

Washington, Oct 17.—Following are extracts from President Ford's statement today to the House of Representatives judiciary subcommittee on criminal justice on his pardoning of former President Richard Nixon.

We meet here today to review the facts and circumstances that were the basis for my pardon of former President Nixon on September 8, 1974.

I am much to have those facts and circumstances. The American people want to know them. And members of the Congress want to know them. The two main reasons are, I suppose, now before this committee serve those purposes. That is why I have volunteered to appear before you this morning, and I welcome the chance you have given me to speak to the questions raised by the resolutions.

My appearance at this hearing of your distinguished subcommittee of the House committee on the judiciary has been looked upon

as the most historic event—one that has no firm precedent in the whole history of presidential relations with the Congress. Yet, I am here not to make a speech, but to report on history.

The first question you are interested in covers so recent a period that it is still not well understood. If, with your assistance, I can make for better understanding of the pardon of our former President, then we can help to achieve the purpose I had for granting the pardon when I did.

That purpose was to change our national focus. I wanted to do all I could to shift our attention from the pursuit of a fair trial for the former President to the urgent needs of a rising nation.

Our nation is under the severest of challenges now to employ its full energies and efforts in the pursuit of a sound and growing economy at home, a stable and peaceful world around us.

We would needlessly be diverted from meeting those challenges if we as a people were to remain still divided over whether to bring to trial, and punish as a former President, one already condemned to suffer long and deeply in the shame and disgrace brought upon the office he held.

Surely, we are not a revengeful people. We have often demonstrated a readiness to feel compassion for our enemies. As a people we have a long record of forgiving even those who have been our country's most destructive foes.

Yet, to forgive is not to forget the lessons of evil, whatever ways we had forgave against us. And certainly the pardon granted the former President will not cause us to forget the evils of Watergate-type offences or to forget the lessons we have learnt that a Government which deceives its people and treats its opponents as enemies must never, never be tolerated.

The pardon power entrusted to the President under the constitution of the United States has a long history and rests on precedents going back centuries before our constitution was drafted and adopted.

The power has been used sometimes as Alexander Hamilton saw its purpose: "In seasons of insurrection . . . when a well-timed offer of pardon to the insurgents or rebels may restore the tranquillity of the Commonwealth which it suffered to pass unimproved, it may never be possible afterwards to recall."

1. Other times it has been applied to one person as "an act

of grace . . . which exempts the individual on whom it is bestowed, from the punishment the law inflicts for a crime he has committed".

2. When a pardon is granted, it also represents the determination that the public welfare will be better served by inflicting less than what the judgment fixed.

3. The third, the constitution does not limit the pardon power to cases of convicted offenders or even indicted offenders.

Thus, I am firm in my conviction that I have the authority to proclaim a pardon for the former President when I did.

Yet, I can also understand why I have volunteered to appear before you this morning, and I welcome the chance you have given me to speak to the questions raised by the resolutions.

My appearance at this hearing of your distinguished subcommittee of the House committee on the judiciary has been looked upon

as the most historic event—one that has no firm precedent in the whole history of presidential relations with the Congress. Yet, I am here not to make a speech, but to report on history.

The first question you are interested in covers so recent a period that it is still not well understood. If, with your assistance, I can make for better understanding of the pardon of our former President, then we can help to achieve the purpose I had for granting the pardon when I did.

That purpose was to change our national focus. I wanted to do all I could to shift our attention from the pursuit of a fair trial for the former President to the urgent needs of a rising nation.

Our nation is under the severest of challenges now to employ its full energies and efforts in the pursuit of a sound and growing economy at home, a stable and peaceful world around us.

We would needlessly be diverted from meeting those challenges if we as a people were to remain still divided over whether to bring to trial, and punish as a former President, one already condemned to suffer long and deeply in the shame and disgrace brought upon the office he held.

Surely, we are not a revengeful people. We have often demonstrated a readiness to feel compassion for our enemies. As a people we have a long record of forgiving even those who have been our country's most destructive foes.

Yet, to forgive is not to forget the lessons of evil, whatever ways we had forgave against us. And certainly the pardon granted the former President will not cause us to forget the evils of Watergate-type offences or to forget the lessons we have learnt that a Government which deceives its people and treats its opponents as enemies must never, never be tolerated.

The pardon power entrusted to the President under the constitution of the United States has a long history and rests on precedents going back centuries before our constitution was drafted and adopted.

The power has been used sometimes as Alexander Hamilton saw its purpose: "In seasons of insurrection . . . when a well-timed offer of pardon to the insurgents or rebels may restore the tranquillity of the Commonwealth which it suffered to pass unimproved, it may never be possible afterwards to recall."

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as the most historic event—one that has no firm precedent in the whole history of presidential relations with the Congress. Yet, I am here not to make a speech, but to report on history.

1. Some suggested "riding it out" by letting the impeachment take its course through the House and the Senate trial fighting all the way to conviction.

2. Others were urging resignation sooner or later. I was told some people backed the first course and other people a resignation but not with the same views as to how and when it should

be done.

3. Trying first to settle for a censure vote as a means of avoiding either impeachment or a need to resign.

4. The question of whether the President could pardon himself.

5. Pardoning various Watergate defendants themselves, followed by resignation.

6. A pardon to the President, should he resign.

The rush of events placed an urgency on what was to be done. It became even more critical in view of the prolonged impeachment which was expected to last possibly four months or longer.

The impact of the Senate trial on the country, the handling of possible impeachment crisis at home and the marked slowdown in the decision-making process within the Federal Government were all factors to be considered and were discussed.

The President read his statement, under the opinion of the Attorney General, which I sought according to the Attorney General and under past precedent, belong to President Nixon.

The President continued: "Those tapes will not be delivered to anybody until satisfactory agreement is reached with the Special Prosecutor's office. His office requested that

"As long as we are holding them for his benefit, I see no way they can be destroyed, or be kept from proper utilization in criminal proceedings."

The President read his statement, under the opinion of the Attorney General, and then submitted to questioning for the subcommittee members.

The first questioner was Mr Robert Kastenmeier, a liberal Democrat from Wisconsin, who asked if before deciding on a pardon Mr Ford had confirmed whether Mr Nixon would be indicted.

Mr Ford replied that he had been given a list of 10 possible charges and was asked: "On the other hand, there was, I think, well-known information that there was a distinct possibility of Mr Nixon being indicted on grounds of obstructing justice."

Mr Kastenmeier also asked if there were any other possible indictments "where the former President might need to be protected."

"I know of no other possible criminal charge," the President replied.

In response to a question from Mr Henry Smith, a New York Republican, Mr Ford said Vice-President designate Nelson Rockefeller had given him no advice on whether or not to pardon Mr Nixon.

Mr Ford also said he held no discussion with Mr Nixon about the question of a pardon before the former President named him as Vice-President last year.

There has been some speculation that Mr Ford would not have been picked as Vice-President unless he had promised to pardon Mr Nixon if the issue ever arose.

President Ford told Mr Don Edwards, a California Democrat, that he could not comment on whether mercy should be shown to former Nixon aides.

General Haig asked for my opinion about the possible pardon. He wanted my thoughts about the timing of a resignation, if that decision were to be made, and about how to do it and accomplish an orderly change of administration.

General Haig outlined for me President Nixon's situation as he saw it and the different views in the White House as to the course of action that might be available, and which were being advanced by various people around him on the tape.

I describe this meeting because at one point it did include references to a possible pardon for Mr Nixon, to which the third and fourth questions in H. Res. 386 are directed; however, I did not deal with the timing of a resignation, if that decision were to be made, and about how to do it and accomplish an orderly change of administration.

The council also accused Patriarch Abuna Theophilos, of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, and the church itself of tax evasion.

The council accused the patriarch of owing the Government the equivalent of £100,000.

The Military Council said that until a new law was introduced for the election of competent councillors, all councils in cities and towns in the 14 provinces were abolished.

The military rulers also accused Patriarch Abuna Theophilos, of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, and the church itself of tax evasion.

The council accused the patriarch of owing the Government the equivalent of £100,000.

The Military Council said that if the church failed to pay it would face nationalization of the buildings and land on which tax had not been paid.

It has been estimated that the Orthodox Church owns about 20 per cent of the country's farm land.—Reuter.

In the final years of Mr Tvardovsky's editorship, when he was ailing, he left the editing of *Novy Mir* largely to his brilliant young pupil Vladimir Laksin, whose brash literary criticisms often kindled lively controversy. When Mr Tvardovsky left *Novy Mir* Mr Laksin also went.

Mr Tvardovsky, who took over his duties today, is a respectable establishment poet and party member who recently turned 55. He studied at the Gorky Literary Institute in Moscow, from which he graduated in 1941.

He spent part of the winter of 1939-40 with a volunteer student brigade fighting the Finns. He served in the army in the Second World War from 1941 to 1945. His first book of war poems, was published in 1948 under the title *Novy Mir*.

Golf

Fog halts first round play and cuts event to 63 holes

From Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent
Venice, Oct 17

When the sun finally struggled through to the Lido course here today it was too late to allow a full day's play in the Italian Open championship. Scores were restricted to nine holes and the championship to 63 holes at the most. If fog returns tomorrow another nine holes will be played starting at the 10th so that one whole round will have been completed before the field is reduced. The weather was glorious by sunbathe but in this tree and in his season of annual visits the resort must be expected.

It was one of those maddening days when a seven o'clock start was possible and Howard Clark day in a twosome at the head of the field was through the turn for 90 minutes. But the fog closed in again slowing down everything except the taxi drivers. One of the first to be affected was one Miller, who was halted by the fog after three holes for about an hour. In the presence of a squadron of ducks and 30 faithful showers he stood about in the old showing tolerance, all the more impressive in view of the difference he had made. In the nick of time before the cancellation of the whole day the sun came to the rescue and drew aside the veil from a course not immediately showing signs of championship quality but having considerable charm.

Clearly some thinking will have been done before risking another continental championship at such an uncertain time of year in this case. The original name of the course was not the first to be deleted as it can't remove the danger of the event not being completed even in the field is restricted to over than 120. George O'Grady, a PGA director, who is in charge of the event, had a difficult day, attempting to make the decision he did not want to give any means of transport on the course. He acted sensibly and only nine holes is not ideal in championship—the British PGA championship was once won over 100 holes—but it is clearly better understanding play than losing a round afternoon golf or of being an uncompleted day.

Miller, who had brought his caddy and played in a group of the second, he holed from 18 feet for his four at the first, at the second after blasting out took three putts missing a clip of one of two feet. Addressing a short pitch to the third he said: "Where did that pin go?" The fog rolled in and he pitched his ball and holed to get a six back. Came the delay, the time spent in discussing, among other subjects, the role of the line on the green.

Miller's caddy, brought with him in America, squats at a discreet space behind Miller on the line the putt in order to see how it goes and what there is to

be learned from a missed putt. Miller is firm that a caddy should only give advice after the stroke has been made and disapproves of the habit of some on the American tour who take advice as they address the ball on the green. Miller also will not allow his caddy so near him if there is any wind.

Miller still had his putting touch with him when he resumed and one hole later he holed a putt which won the manouevre of his start. He holed his par after missing the green at the short hole and was still down in two after missing the seventh green. His final round which gave him 34 to the turn, one under par, was from 106. He recognises a debt to his putting.

In the turmoil of a distracted round he put a five down on Barnes' card at the sixth when in fact Barnes, after finding a greenside bunker with long iron second, came on to 106 and was still down by four. Barnes signed for the wrong figure and his score stands at 37 although he took only 36 strokes.

Buter who had waited an hour on the first tee before being able to tee off, was once again the first to be affected was one Miller, who was halted by the fog after three holes for about an hour. In the presence of a squadron of ducks and 30 faithful showers he stood about in the old showing tolerance, all the more impressive in view of the difference he had made. In the nick of time before the cancellation of the whole day the sun came to the rescue and drew aside the veil from a course not immediately showing signs of championship quality but having considerable charm.

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Football

Jago joins Millwall in London panic

By Norman Fox

In their writhing to escape from the financial perils of relegation, some of the threatened London clubs are playing managerial pass-the-parcel. David Sexton, sacked by Chelsea a fortnight ago, has taken over at Queen's Park Rangers, whose previous manager, Gordon Jago, yesterday succeeded Benny Parsons at Millwall. The other London first division club not yet taken into charge is management is Arsenal, who on Wednesday went to the bottom of the table while Tottenham Hotspur were playing to a disillusioned little crowd of 12,823 despite Terry Neill's changes that were reported to have freed the players from the inhibitions of the old-fashioned methods of Nicholson and Baily.

In this panic-stricken atmosphere a manager can in one week be signed, alone in the nick of a grandstand, contemplating his failure and the next being welcomed to a new club like an apostle of certain success—the case being the true story of Mr Sexton. In the first division, however, last season and a lot of complications. However, wheels moved against each other within the recesses of the boardroom and after a difficult period referred to Crystal Palace, Bowles and Mancini appeared on the transfer list and even the diplomatic McLinnock could not conceal his anguish at the affairs that led to Peters' making a point of returning to the second division during his term at Loftus Road and this time did not come back, feeling that he could not make a sufficient full return to make up for his absence.

Asked if he did not think his



Jago yesterday with two Millwall players—Kitchener and Saul.

Mr Jago's career has taken several twists of fortune. As a player with Charlton Athletic, he was one of those who specialised in football in the United States but was soon forced to become manager, and then became manager of Queen's Park Rangers in May, 1971. Under his direction, Rangers were promoted to the first division and then played football in the second division last season and a lot of complications. However, wheels moved against each other within the recesses of the boardroom and after a difficult period referred to Crystal Palace, Bowles and Mancini appeared on the transfer list and even the diplomatic McLinnock could not conceal his anguish at the affairs that led to Peters' making a point of returning to the second division during his term at Loftus Road and this time did not come back, feeling that he could not make a sufficient full return to make up for his absence.

Asked if he did not think his

method of contact with South

wall on October 3 and since then the team has been run by Lawrie Leslie. The first job for Mr Jago will be to choose the side to play against Grateful Rowers tomorrow. Although Mr Jago's performance figures this season is developing into one of the most interesting for several years. The prospect of Arsenal, Tottenham and Crystal Palace, United, Millwall to get their heads above the muddy waters is sadly fascinating and with Spurs and Arsenal meeting each other in White Hart Lane tomorrow there will not have been a more crucial North London derby in years. Peters, who has missed three of Tottenham's recent games, is fit.

Today's fixtures

THIRD DIVISION: *Colchester United v Southend United* (7.30). *Cambridge United v Exeter City* (7.30). *Newport County v Northampton Town* (7.10). *RUGBY UNION: Crows Nest v St. Lucia*. *RUGBY LEAGUE: Second division: Whitehaven v Oldham* (7.30).

Mr Peters resigns from Millwall

"LONG FLIGHTS CAN BE TEDIOUS BUT I FIND TWA MAKES THEM AS PLEASANT AS POSSIBLE."

Kjell Qvale is Chairman of the Board of Jensen Motors Ltd.

Mr. Qvale's office is in San Francisco, and the Jensen factory in West Bromwich, England.

This involves some long distance flights. And naturally, an experienced traveller like Kjell Qvale has no illusions about the joys of thirteen hours in the air.

But he also knows how to make them as pleasant as possible.

For him this means flying TWA.

"With TWA," he says, "I know I can expect efficiency. I can expect punctuality. And I can expect good service before departure, in the air, and on arrival."

At TWA we put a lot of effort into making our long flights from Europe to California as pleasant as possible.

Our Ambassador Service offers you a choice of three meals in Economy, five in First Class.

You also have the choice of two films and eight tracks of audio.*

We fly spacious 747's, and fly them non-stop to Los Angeles. Then on to San Francisco.

Cricket

Prudential to sponsor world cup

by

Peter

Ryde

Golf

Correspondent

Venice

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Just the right distance for Grundy

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

The Dewhurst Stakes run at Newmarket today, and sponsored once again by the William Hill organisation, ought to reveal the winter favourite for the great 2,000 Guineas. At present the issue appears to rest between Grundy, arguably the best two-year-old colt in training in England, and Steel Heart, his counterpart in Ireland.

Two races in this country have thrust Steel Heart into the limelight. First, he won the Gimcrack Stakes at York, and then added the Middle Park Stakes to his tally. After that triumph his owner, Ravi Tikkoo, announced that Steel Heart would return from Ireland, where he is trained by Dermot Weld, to try to establish over-all superiority in beating Grundy this afternoon.

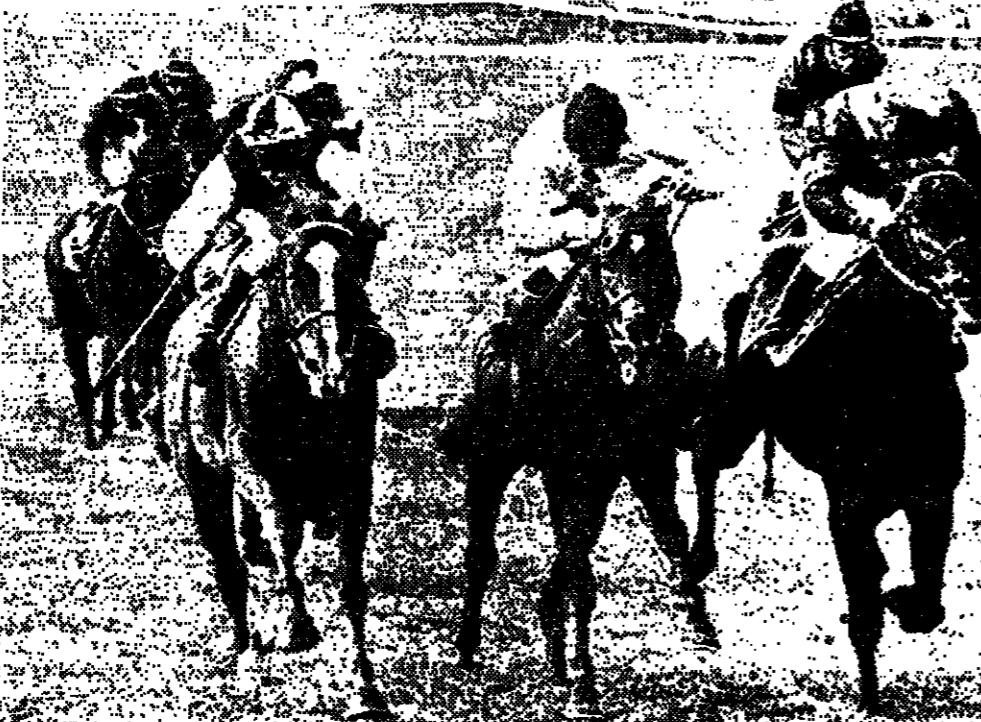
One has to look to the eye back to 1968 and 1969 to find the last horses to win both the Middle Park Stakes and the Dewhurst Stakes. They were the half-brothers Sayadu and Lemberg, each won on the way to a classic, Sayadu the St Leger and Lemberg the Derby.

Mr Tikkoo is clearly not afraid to take on the best, and "This is my policy," he told me, "is to fight him." So we find the unbeaten Grundy faced with his most important challenge so far. Grundy is preferred for two reasons. He has now established himself as the winner of the Cheshire Stakes at Doncaster that I was by the way that Steel Heart won the Middle Park Stakes. Furthermore, the distance of today's race seems likely to suit him better. In fact Steel Heart has already won over several furlongs.

Watching the Middle Park Stakes, I thought that Steel Heart was going to come home racing down the hill towards the dip. But in the end he was an out-and-out Rock Horse, as expected to be inferior to Dial-a-Ride at home.

At Doncaster, Eddery rode Grundy in a most confident way, bidding his time, waiting for an opening before eventually asking Grundy to accelerate past Whirlwind in the final furlong. Grundy did it as easily as winking.

In the meantime Bold Pirate has injected goodness into his form by winning the St. Leger Stakes at Longchamp. What some have overlooked is the fact that Steel Heart finished only fifth behind



Escapist wins the Somerville Stakes at Newmarket yesterday from Burleigh.

Whirlwind in the Cheveley Park Stakes to finish second to Cry of Truth. But the fact that Bold Pirate has beaten some good French colts on their own ground this summer prompts one to wonder if Grundy will be capable of putting the challenge in his place this afternoon.

Baldur, a good winner here 13 days ago, and Stamen, who won his first and only race by beating the more experienced Gaudin, are the other colts to consider. His brother, Bruce Hobbs, is only too well aware of the task that confronts his colt today, but knowing that Stamen is improving, he is not without hope.

That was a horse race and, a half mile wasn't it? But the verdict of the experts at Newmarket yesterday afternoon Escapist had won the Somerville Tattersalls Stakes by beating Burleigh and Consol. A short head separated the first and the second, and the second and the third.

Consol seized the initiative at halfway. Running down the hill into the dip Burleigh mastered him but Consol would not surrender. An enthralling duel between these two ensued until, just as the race was about to end, Consol, with Escapist on the come with a late flourish that plucked the prize from under their noses.

"Geoff seemed very confident of the outcome on dismounting," said Alan Stogden, remounted later, "but Consol was a hard, determined horse. He need not have worried. The photograph of this memorable finish showed Escapist holding a narrow yet clear advantage where it mattered most.

Then his competitor was given a steady, well-timed inquiry into

Escapist and Burleigh in the race.

SOLICITORS- Earn £5260 NOW!

Bexley Council are looking for an energetic Senior Solicitor to work in their Common Law Group. An enthusiasm for planning and development or for litigation would be an advantage. One year's post-admission experience required. The Council will be recommended shortly to adopt a scheme of fringe benefits for staff including mortgages, payment of legal fees for house purchase, removal expenses and disturbance allowances. Further information and application forms can be obtained from Borough Administrative and Legal Officer, Town Hall, Erith, Kent, or telephone Pauline Hearn on 01-303 7777 Ext. 484. Closing date 11th November, 1974.

Bexley
LONDON BOROUGH

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Development Corporation's Chief Administrative Officer, John Beckett (he is responsible for finance as well) is looking for someone with a healthy appetite for work to join his administrative team responsible for the organisation of committee and project team working.

The administrative part of the department is responsible for all secretarial services, accommodation, staffing and also for servicing and contributing to the work of multi-professional teams engaged on major planning, design and research projects and for liaison with Local Authorities and the Department of the Environment.

The pay (£3750-24257, plus appropriate threshold payments) is accompanied by good conditions of service, help with the costs of moving home, temporary subsistence, etc. And the usual superannuation arrangements apply.

The individual jobs which would come your way would be pretty varied, but all interesting, constructive and even creative. If you're interested in joining us we're interested in hearing from you. This is the second vacancy to occur within the last three months—applications for the first one will be reconsidered now.

Application forms can be had by telephoning 0733 80311 Extension 26, and we would like them sent back to the General Manager, Peterborough Development Corporation, Petercourt, Peterborough PE1 1UJ by 4 November 1974.

Greater Peterborough

Institute of Manpower Studies

DIRECTOR

The Council of the Institute of Manpower Studies is seeking applicants for the post of Director of the IMS. The present Director will complete his agreed term of office not later than July 1975.

The main IMS research group is located on the campus at the University of Sussex. The Institute is an independent organisation supported from a variety of sources—government, industry and education—and undertakes manpower studies, and work on their application, at international and national levels and at that of the individual organisation, of whatever size.

During the next stage of its development, the Director's responsibility will be to strengthen the Institute's working relationships with government and with industry, to manage its financial and administrative affairs, and to encourage and support the research programme without necessarily participating in this himself.

These basic tasks make it probable that candidates may come from business and industry, but other backgrounds are not excluded. Experience in fostering co-operation within and between research workers in the economic and social fields might be an advantage. The successful candidate is likely to be over thirty-five.

The tenure of office will be between three and five years and the terms of service will be related to the successful applicant's experience and qualifications.

Enquiries should be made in the first instance to Mr. H. S. Mullay, Chairman of IMS Executive Committee, at Britannic House, London EC2Y 9BU; telephone 01-920 6926.

ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT COUNCILS

Post 1—Administrative Assistant

Salary £3,705—£3,954
plus threshold payments

Post 2—Administrative Assistant

Salary £3,363—£3,582
plus threshold payments

For Post 1 the successful applicant will be involved in the work of one of the association's major committees concerned with housing and environmental health, including the preparation of agenda, minutes and conducting correspondence; and for Post 2 the duties will include committee administration.

The association represents the 333 new district councils of England and Wales in their relations with Parliament, central government and other national bodies.

Local government conditions of service and superannuation scheme apply. Assistance with removal and other expenses up to a maximum of £500.

Application forms and job descriptions may be obtained from The Secretary, Association of District Councils, 25 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AU (01-832 7425). Closing date Monday, 11th November, 1974.

SCOTTISH TOURIST BOARD

A senior vacancy exists with the Scottish Tourist Board. This is based in Edinburgh and open to applicants already holding responsible management positions in the field of operations set out below:

EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIRECTOR £4,500—£6,000

The Director will be responsible for presenting the Media and the Tourist Industry with a fair and up-to-date picture of Scottish Tourism in general and the work of the Scottish Tourist Board in particular; and for increasing the public's awareness of the value and purpose of tourism and the developing policies of the Board. Specific responsibilities include direct liaison with Tourism Organisations and Local Government, and with the External Relations Departments of public and commercial organisations; press features and news releases; speech preparation; organisation of conferences; and publication of a regular newsletter. The Director will also be involved in liaison with a London based public relations company dealing with finance and investment. Applicants must have a proven record of achievement in public relations work in the public or private sector.

This post heads an existing Division within the Board and reports direct to the Chief Executive. Support staff at middle management level are either in post or will be recruited. Full job specification is available from:

THE SECRETARY,
SCOTTISH TOURIST BOARD,
23 RAVELSTON TERRACE,
EDINBURGH EH4 3EU.



CLWYD

HEALTH AUTHORITY

Area personnel officer

Clwyd Health Authority is looking for an Area Personnel Officer following the promotion of the present holder to a District line management post in an Area Health Authority (Teaching).

We are only able to offer Scale 27, and we are asking for a lot. We want a practical person and a thinker; a skilled personnel officer and a manager, someone who understands what delegation is, can accept it and practise it. It's a big but satisfying task in what we intend will be a creative and dynamic Health Authority.

Are you up to it? If so, write to the Area Administrator, Clwyd Health Authority, Ponty Garreg, Wrexham Street, Mold, Clwyd, for further details and a job description.

Applications are invited from Officers employed within the reorganised Health Service in England and Wales, and should be returned by not later than 6th November, 1974.

Lincolnshire Senior Legal Executive

(PROSECUTING SOLICITOR'S OFFICE)

PO2A £4,722—£4,998 (together with threshold payments)

Lincolnshire County Council has recently appointed a Prosecuting Solicitor (Mr. R. A. Clegg) to head a newly established Prosecuting Solicitor's Office.

The above post has been created to give support to the Prosecuting Solicitor in the tasks normally performed in such an office, and it is therefore essential that the successful applicant should have considerable relevant experience. A qualified Legal Executive would be preferred.

The Prosecuting Solicitor's office is new and therefore some pioneering work will be required to be done—support staff will be appointed as the office develops.

It is anticipated that the office will be situated in a pleasant country area just outside the Lincoln City boundary.

Housing in Lincolnshire is relatively inexpensive and there is the possibility of assistance with house purchase in certain limited cases. The County Council has also agreed a scheme of lodging and removal allowances payable in appropriate cases.

Application forms and further details are obtainable from the Director of Personnel and Central Services, County Offices, Lincoln (tel. Lincoln 29931 ext. 317) to whom completed forms should be returned by 8 November, 1974.

Deputy Administrative Officer— Legal

Salary Scale P.O.2
 (£5,412—£5,967)

Applications are invited for the above position. The person appointed must be a Solicitor preferably with conveyancing and court experience and will be responsible for all the legal work of the Council. Local Government experience desirable but not essential.

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Chief Administrative Officer for the co-ordination and administration of the legal section, including Land Charges.

Applications giving full details of qualifications and experience, together with the names and addresses of two referees to reach me by the 8th November, 1974.

R. R. NUTTALL
Chief Executive, Town Hall,
Ashington, Northumberland,
NE63 6RX.

Wansbeck District Council

YORKSHIRE WATER AUTHORITY

DIVISION DIRECTOR

South Western Division

up to £9,850

This senior post will become vacant in the near future. Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates with managerial experience in either Water Supply, or Water Pollution Control.

The Division is fully integrated, embracing Water Supply and Distribution (pop. 760,000), Water Pollution Control (pop. 815,000), and including all river management functions other than land drainage. The Director's Management Team includes officers responsible to him for Water Supply, Water Pollution Control and Finance, and is supporting staff to deal with New Works, Scientific Services and other functions.

This senior post provides a challenging opportunity in river management. There are short term and long term problems to be solved concerned with every aspect of this work. The Division contains two heavily polluted rivers and there is a need to improve standards almost every sewer, works as well as to establish and maintain effective trade effluent controls. On the clear water side there are some 41 impounding reservoirs and many other major works. Capital schemes of considerable magnitude are planned or in progress to deal with supply and distribution difficulties.

The salary rises to a maximum of £9,850 per annum, and the post is located at the Head Office of the Division in Halifax.

Applications giving full details and quoting RNS8/T should reach the Personnel Officer, West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AA by the 4th November, 1974.

YORKSHIRE WATER AUTHORITY

Professorships

£8,250—£9,000

Royal Military College of Science,
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To head a new Department, which will consist of two Associate Professors and 12 Lecturers and has been created to advance the College's contribution to management studies; and to ensure the teaching of general management, OR, computer applications and software, capabilities, economics and politics—is required for college courses. This post is to be filled as soon as possible, initially for a period of 4 years.

Applicants for these posts should be able to show evidence of high qualifications and attainment in their respective fields, and for the first two posts should preferably have teaching experience at university level. For the third post experience of the management of research, development or production, in industry or government is desirable.

Starting salary from around £8,250 to over £9,000 according to qualifications and experience. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For full details and an application form to be returned by 14 November 1974 write to the CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, ALENCON LINK, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke 21122 ext. 500 (or, for 24 hour answering service, London 01-839 1992). Please quote S/8740/3.

Professor of Chemistry and Metallurgy

To head the Department, which consists of two Associate Professors and 9 Lecturers, and to ensure the teaching of pure and applied mathematics, statistics and ballistics. This post is to be filled as soon as possible.

COMPANY LAWYER (SOLICITOR) -up to £4500

We are a rapidly expanding enterprise supplying radioactive isotopes to users in medicine, research and industry. Turnover is in excess of £9 million and likely to double in the next five years.

The Company Lawyer's role will be to undertake and advise on all aspects of the Company's legal work. The job demands self motivation, professional competence and considerable

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The Radiochemical Centre

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Large firm of City Solicitors are seeking a suitable, experienced and qualified man for the above position. Ideally the applicant should be in his forties and have had experience in day-to-day office administration and personnel management. The salary is negotiable but will not be less than £4,500 per annum.

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Salary by arrangement with prospects of early executive status.
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APPOINTMENTS VACANT ALSO ON PAGE 30

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GENERAL MANAGER

The suitable person will—
Identify strategic and operational objectives for our management team
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Applications giving full details of previous experience should be addressed to :
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Why a good harvest may not save thousands from starvation in West Bengal

West Bengal is in the grip of the worst famine since the terrible autumn of 1943 when up to two million people died. The present suffering is not remotely comparable in extent but is in some ways more disturbing because its causes can not be sought in the special circumstances of wartime conditions or natural disaster.

There is no question that people are dying of starvation. Mortality is highest in the northern areas of Couch Behar and Jalpaiguri where emaciated corpses can be found discarded by the roadside, in village markets or outside the government-run "gruel kitchens". Special squads have been charged with the discreet disposal of the bodies.

Local officials estimate that perhaps a thousand people have died so far in Couch Behar alone. There are reports of famine deaths in the eastern very badly hit districts of Bankura and Purulia in the west. This is a highly sensitive topic in Calcutta where state

government officials refuse to acknowledge the existence of starvation.

"In all these cases (of reported deaths) we have found that it is malnutrition not starvation," Mr B. R. Gupta, the state's Chief Secretary, blandly assured me in his office in the Writers' Building.

"These people get progressively weaker over a long period then they succumb to disease".

For the victims there is unlikely to be much consolation in knowing that they are dying of malnutrition rather than starvation. In cold economic terms, the desperately weakened state, and reduced earning capacity, of the millions who will survive somehow until the next harvest at the end of November, is more serious than the deaths of a comparatively small number of people.

The "gruel kitchens"—run partly by the Government, partly by groups of local business and charitable organizations like the Ram



Krishna mission—are providing some relief, but they are catering only to a small fraction of those in need.

What is alarming about the present situation is that there is no obvious reason why it should be so bad. It is true that floods did considerable

damage to crops in the northern districts of West Bengal earlier in the year and the traditionally drought-prone areas of Bankura and Purulia were worse hit than usual. But the main impact of these setbacks will be mainly felt on the coming autumn harvest, which despite everything is expected to be a good one.

West Bengal's troubles appear to arise from a complex interaction of several different factors: an overall shortage of food, caused by marginal or non-existent growth in production, and increasing population has been aggravated by social changes in the rural economy, particularly the great increase in the number of landless labourers. West Bengal, which supports a population of 47,000,000 has long been a food deficit state—to the tune of about 2,000,000 tonnes in the current year. This means that it is always very dependent on the surplus states to make good the gap. The effect of a good autumn crop this year in

West Bengal could easily be nullified because of the severe drought in other parts of the country.

In the past few months the central government has been able to meet only a small part of Calcutta's requirements from the central grain pool because of the poor spring harvest in most parts of India. On its side the state government achieved less than a third of the target set for the procurement of grain from the farmers' marketable surplus, on which the controlled-price public distribution system depends.

The "jotedars" or big farmers, who have been badly hit by the rising cost of fertilizers and pesticides, consider the government's procurement price to be absurdly low and prefer to sell their produce through a network of traders and middlemen on the black market, where they can earn two or three times as much.

Another effect of the tremendous inflation in the open

market price of rice—up to 100 per cent in little over a year—is that the bigger farmers are reluctant to pay landless labourers in kind, a traditional standby on which the rural landless have depended to see them through the seasonal lean period for employment running from September to November. The cash wages which landless labourers, who perhaps number between 15 million and 20 million, increasingly receive in lieu of food are so low that they cannot afford to buy rice at current prices even when it is available. Thus the traditional community of interest between the "jotedar" and the landless labourer—a kind of serfdom—is tending to break down.

The number of landless is increasing, both naturally and because many small or marginal farmers are being forced to join their ranks under pressure of debt.

Michael Hornsby



An illustration from Canada's Indians, by James Wilson, published by the Minority Rights Group.

Redskins' last stand, backed by the law

In these guilty enlightened days, it is widely known that the aboriginal Americans had a raw deal. Shot up by the cowboys, dispensed by settlers in the name of progress and profit, the redskins were relegated to human zoos called reserves which did not even give them the protection from disease and despair that animal zoos aimed at. They were systematically treated as Darwinian misfits. When they ignored offers to join the caravan of western civilization driving on to the stars, and took to give instead, they were consigned to the industrial scrapheap.

Their terminal function seemed to be to provide anthropologists with well paid post-graduates. Their own view of this seventh plague of civilization is summed up in the Indian comment that Columbus must have brought anthropologists on his ships when he came to the New World—how else could he have made so many wrong deductions about where he was? But though the anthropologists may have got things wrong, they were none the less a cog in that complex mechanism in western man known as conscience.

They put flesh on the notion that not only had the Indians been economically plundered and mentally persecuted, but that their culture, their way of looking at life, was not just different from that of the white man, but that this difference contained uniquely valuable insights from which the white man had much to learn and gain. Western medicine began to recognize an aboriginal title to land which could be extinguished only by treaty with the Crown. Since this procedure was followed only in the Prairies, Indians are claiming that more than half of Canada really belongs to them, and demand that the settlement recognizes their claim. It was partially upheld by the Quebec Supreme Court, which ruled that the construction of the James Bay hydro-electric scheme on which some \$800 million had been spent, must be halted pending a settlement that does not extinguish (for a consideration) aboriginal rights. Those rights are apparently put at about \$1500m for the whole non-treaty area involved, to be invested in development of the reserves.

By firmly hanging on to their treaty rights, in fact, the Indians have emerged as a separate people in Canada, with rights to be entrenched in the Trudeau's bilingual, bi-cultural society—it must become integral.

Primitive society has gone down before "civilization" for 5,000 years, but never so fast as in the past 200. Yet primitive ability to survive, to live with nature as a wife instead of raping her, is one of the great inheritances of the human race. The primitives represent a reserve of health and wisdom for modern men. It was arrogance to try to eradicate the primitives, and it may yet prove important to the preservation of the human race to respect, protect and cherish them.

Robert Fisk

On the afternoon of Long Kesh, children play around a burning road block in Belfast

skier though he started only at the age of 40 six years ago. He played to the gallery enthusiastically and said it was just like being in the Alps. To prove it he pulled on a knitted ski cap and performed a few parallel christies, schusses, and turns in the rain.

The book, says Evans, has the advantage of not having been written by experts.

"Usually instructors are so good at it that they have forgotten how they ever learned."

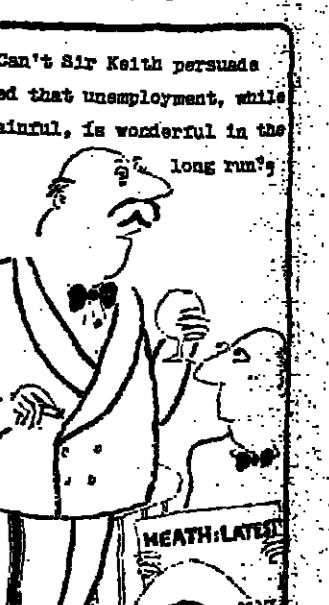
He says the book has plenty of controversial bits about short skirts and something called wedging, which may have to do with the fact that Evans claims to be bow-legged.

Collins, who publish it, say it is underpriced at £3.50, but then some of their directors are doubtful whether anyone can afford a skiing holiday this year.

Pitchforks

Officers carefully crossed a beach, Indian file for fear of mines and arousing the suspicions of the local Home Guard who thought they were spies.

"Those pitchforks", he said, "terrified me more than the prospect of being blown up."



In the issue of the Evening Standard which carried the report that Pan American Airways might cut its operations from Heathrow, was an advertisement reading: "Pan American requires secretary at Heathrow". They should get a temp.

PHS

So he is the man in form, but he began yesterday with a conciliatory statement. He had read reports that he was seeking to have Foot jailed, but that was untrue. He was seeking simply to prove his case. The penalty would be a matter for the court.

Foot, who looks fiercer and more gaunt every time I see him, was a minute or two late, but he arrived in time to hear this consoling statement, though he showed no visible sign of relief. Foot does not get a chance to speak at this sort of hearing, but Silkin read extracts from the controversial article.

Silkin has a flat, deliberate style of delivery and he did not show any visible emotion when reading out the piece in Foot's article about the "hacks on the press bench" who had complied with the judge's ruling by not revealing the secret names. People in the audience glared in our direction and the more sensitive among us blushed. Even hacks have feelings.

Foot did not show much emotion though he did seem pleased when Lord Wigderg summed up his (Foot's) view of the conduct of the press in the word pusillanimous. To

ward the end of the morning Foot seemed to be getting rather impatient. Though to a minor extent the case has a bearing on press freedom, the calm, deliberate atmosphere of the court seemed designed to drain its gesture of much of its crusading element.

After 35 minutes of Silkin, Ronald Waterhouse presented the case for Foot. His method was also undramatic, very far from the courtroom drama as portrayed in films.

The main thrust of his argument was that trial judges had no right to prevent the publication of the names of witnesses in public trials. If they thought secrecy was desirable they should go the whole way and hold the trial in camera.

Apart from that, the morning was occupied mainly by readings from past cases. The court servants were impressively quick to produce the relevant volumes for the judges, though they were caught out for a while by The Times' law reports for 1927. Nobody seemed to refer to Who's Who and nobody mentioned the real names of Messrs Y and Z.

Slippery slope

Skiers congregated on the slopes of Alexandra Park on Wednesday night to launch the book "We Learned to Ski". Under electric light the artificial ski slope even looks like snow. In daytime it looks like scrubby plastic stubble.

Harold Evans, editor of The Sunday Times and co-author of the book, is now a proficient

Boston discovers there is no bus route to better education

Americans should not have been surprised by the appearance of lynching mobs on the streets of Boston. The Brahmins may still live on Beacon Hill, but the city stopped striving to be a "City upon a Hill" soon after John Winthrop wrote his *Modell of Christian Charity*. The arrival of the Irish beginning in the hungry forties also completely changed the city's character, although not necessarily for the worse.

Nor did the city escape the national turmoil of the sixties. The Negro assertion of their racial and cultural separateness led to a new awareness of ethnic origins among the white working class in northern cities. Hyphenated Americans ceased to regard their sentimental attachments to the life styles of their central, eastern and southern European forebears as un-American. If black was beautiful so was the Irish green.

The Negro struggle for equal opportunity and social justice had other consequences for the ethnics and the working class. The liberal political leadership which had represented them since the New Deal turned to champion the blacks, and as the ethnics saw it at their expense. Certainly there is remarkable evidence suggesting that the lot of the American white working class has not improved in recent years.

They were further incensed when the liberal intellectuals turned against the Vietnamese war, a war largely fought by white and black working class conscripts while sons of the intellectuals won deferment by taking post-graduate courses. To top all this the white workers who believed that his living standards were threatened by the blacks, was accused of racism, bigotry, jingoism and perverted populism. The intellectuals won deferment by recognizing what they are trying to destroy even if their motives are admirable.

Another thought, which may not have struck the social engineers or liberals. The assumption that in a school attended by children from a variety of social-economic and racial groups the unprivileged child learns from the others has been proved wrong in many American cities.

Against this background, it can be seen that the explanation for the violent opposition in Boston to the busing of white and black children is not only racial. Obviously racism exists, as it does everywhere, but there are also elements of class warfare and alienation. These factors could generate violence almost anywhere.

Massachusetts may have been the only state to vote for McGovern. Boston may have claims for moral and cultural superiority, but given this situation violent opposition to busing was inevitable. Large areas of the city, especially South Boston, are overwhelmingly Irish. Unlike the Poles in Chicago and the Hungarians in Gary, many of its inhabitants have retained their Irish identity even after five or six generations. Their neighbourhoods, shabby though

Louis Heren

The Colditz syndrome that lies behind the troubles at Long Kesh

Whatever else the burning of the Maze prison at Long Kesh and the rioting at Armagh this week may have represented to the Government, it could scarcely have come as a shock. More than a month ago, for example, Sinn Fein sympathizers in Dublin told British journalists attending the organization's annual conference that the IRA was going to burn Britain's most publicized jail. Only three weeks ago, the Provisionals themselves issued a statement from their Belfast brigade, saying that they intended to burn Long Kesh to the ground as well as Magilligan prison.

It can have come as no surprise to the authorities either that the violence on Tuesday night followed a series of demands from both Protestant and Roman Catholic prisoners, convicted and held without trial, to which the Northern Ireland Office largely conceded. The prisoners demanded more edible food, better sports facilities, better washing facilities, a new parole scheme and—perhaps most important of all—they wanted their various paramilitary groups to have official representatives who would meet Mr Robert Truesdale, the prison governor.

Republicans and loyalists, clearly working in collusion, started throwing their prison bread casts over the steel walls of their compounds nearly two months ago and at precisely the same time the UDA and the official IRA organized road blocks all over Belfast in sympathy with the demands. A list of the prisoners was issued by the UDA in a style which must have allowed the prisoners to think that they had PoW status. There was for them little difference between such a meeting and that between a German officer might have accorded his opposite numbers in a Second World War prison camp.

In truth, of course, there are many complaints about Long Kesh which it is hard to dismiss.

The prison, officials privately confided, was not up to standard because it was taking too long to reach the 1,500 or so prisoners after leaving the kitchens, so more trolleys were to be provided.

Extra bed linen was sent into the camp and Mr Truesdale, although it was not explicitly stated like this at first, agreed to meet the prisoners' representatives. He actually sat down and talked to men appointed by the UDA, the Ulster Volunteer Force and both wings of the IRA in a style which must have allowed the prisoners to think that they had PoW status. There was for them little difference between such a meeting and that between a German officer might have accorded his opposite numbers in a Second World War prison camp.

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Why going back to the land is the only hope for the Third World

Thirteen months ago in a speech at the United Nations General Assembly, the American Secretary of State, Dr Henry Kissinger, called for a World Food Conference. It will begin under United Nations auspices on November 5 in Rome. Even 13 months ago when Dr Kissinger made his speech, the world food situation looked grim. Now, following the harvest reports that have been coming in during the past two months, the situation we were often so confidently told could never happen is now likely to: worldwide famine that will kill millions of people and seriously reduce the precarious standard of living of hundreds of millions of others.

Quite rightly, the World Food Conference will be concentrating on how to avert immediate catastrophe, but it is just as important that delegates look beyond the present to the long term problems. For the crisis in food production is but one indication that something is going seriously wrong in the Third World. Once we begin to dismantle the engine of economic development, we find at least four other major faults.

These are the fast upward climb in migration, unemployment, and slum creation, together with an increasing mal-distribution of income.

In the 50 years between 1920 and 1973 the number of persons engaged in agriculture in the developing world rose from approximately 240,000,000 to 450,000,000. In the same space of time the acreage of agricultural land increased by only a quarter.

It is not surprising then, given the low level of technical expertise in the countryside and the increasing awareness of the towns, that hundreds of thousands of people have flocked from their villages to the cities.

Even when there is opportunity in the countryside, young men often find the town more appealing. There they can earn more in a job than at home. As a result the urban population of the Third World rose at an annual rate of 4 per cent between 1920 and 1960—twice the rate in the developed countries during their time of development. In Europe in the 1850s, when 15 per cent of the population lived in towns, urbanisation increased 1.2 per cent. In the developing countries at around the same stage of development—the 1950s—the rate was 2.6 per cent.

A frighteningly high proportion of these immigrants end up in the towns without a job, and often without a roof. The number of unemployed in townships with a population of 20,000 or more has grown dramatically. In 1950 it was 8,000,000, in 1960 13,000,000, in 1970 24,000,000. Unemployment in the urban areas of Africa averages 27 per cent; in

the Philippines 13 per cent; in Bogotá, Colombia 11 per cent.

Underemployment is even worse. In a developed economy an expanding tertiary sector is a sign of progress—services are the harvest of economic achievement. Quite the reverse in Latin America, Asia and Africa—services are parasites drawing odd coins from wealthier pockets that pass by. Shoe shine boys, sellers of sticky candy, messengers, cigarette vendors, tourist touts, porters, etc—all eke out a living contributing only marginally to economic development. The proportion of the non-agricultural labour force engaged in services in Latin American countries is between 60 and 70 per cent; in Europe it is between 40 and 50 per cent.

What is most disturbing about these Third World unemployment figures is that they illustrate the plight of the young. Men at an age when they are at the most ambitious, most yearning, even most idealistic period of their lives are subject to the humiliation of having failed. Nothing is more likely to sow the seeds of strife and discontent.

But the danger of Third World unemployment is that it is a disease that conventional economic growth probably cannot cure. It is too pathological, too far gone, for the urban-industrial treatment to have any effect.

In an attempt to show just how impossible the situation is, a recent Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has calculated that on average in the developing countries the manufacturing sector employs 20 per cent of the labour force and the unemployment rate and underemployment rate together average 25 per cent. The increase in labour productivity is assumed to be 2.5 per cent a year, the rate achieved between 1955 and 1968.

In order to absorb an increase in the labour force growing at 3 per cent a year (it is in fact growing at 4 per cent), industrial production would have to increase at the phenomenal rate of 18 per cent a year (even record-breaking Brazil has only achieved 15 per cent). To eradicate within a decade the existing rural and urban unemployment and underemployment it would have to increase by 30-35 per cent a year. The report not surprisingly concludes: "Thus eradication of general underemployment through the development of industrial employment is a practical impossibility in the medium term".

And in an ominous footnote we are told: "in some African countries manufacturing employment seems to have been falling".

And so the favelas, callampas, barriadas and bidonvilles will continue to proliferate. Already in Calcutta the number of people living in one room is

79 per cent of the population. Large numbers live on the pavement. In Caracas 30 per cent of the population live in shanty towns; in Lima 20 per cent; in Buenos Aires 10 per cent.

Sanitation and sewerage systems cannot cope. Djakarta has a population of nearly 5,000,000, but it has no sewerage, no safe running water and few transport services. In Brazil less than half of the municipalities have reliable water supplies. Only a third have sewerage systems. In 1971 only 38 per cent of Latin American towns had sewerage services. Even that was up from 28 per cent in 1961.

But not only is it difficult to give this new proletariat a job and a roof, it is becoming increasingly difficult, even in the high growth economies, to stop their incomes declining—at least relatively, and in some cases absolutely.

Mexico has been regarded as one of the development successes—in GNP has risen by 6 or 7 per cent annually for the past 15 years. Government policy has had a hefty bias towards the urban sector and large farms. Yet unemployment has been on the up and income disparities have worsened.

Brazil, with its population of close on 100,000,000, now has a larger national economy than any other western hemisphere country, bar the United States and Canada. No other developing country comes near to imitating its successful growth rate—it is now running at over 10 per cent a year. The down town areas of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro give a visual impression of being wealthier and more developed than any European city and indeed more than any North American city, save perhaps New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

Yet for all its glitter and glory the average per capita income of the massive giant is a mere \$600, making it one of the poorer Latin American countries, and the evidence appears to suggest that during this time of high growth, income distribution has dramatically worsened. The richest 10 per cent of the population appropriated almost three-quarters of the gain in income between 1960 and 1970; the poorest 50 per cent took less than a tenth. Those with university education experienced a gain in income of 52 per cent, while the half of the population with some primary education had an income increase of only 14 per cent. The Minister of Finance has admitted that in the early years of this surge of growth "it is probable that between 1964 and 1967 the (wage) formula provoked a certain compression of real wages".

And the World Bank has found that "the share of the net income received by the poorest 40 per cent declined from 10 per cent in 1960 to 8 per cent in 1970".

All the evidence suggests that the escape route from poverty that leads through the city and the industrial sector is fraught with many more difficulties than was thought likely when newly independent countries started on this path a decade or two ago. It is deeply ironic that both the major schools of economic thought—capitalist and socialist—preached similar false solutions. Many socialists argued that real independence was impossible without a strong industrial base and the west often argued that a developing industrial sector was the most effective way of attracting outside capital.

The Third World countries are now landed with the results of this mistaken advice—chronic food shortages, a demoralized countryside, fast expanding urban population, and a growing inequality of income.

Some developing countries have only one or two of these problems; some have them all. But the world over, there is a growing awareness that all is not well and that the time has come to look for an alternative development strategy.

Increasingly it is being said at the highest levels of the development establishment—in the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank and the universities, that the Chinese have shown the way. They have given priority to people in the countryside, they have discouraged migration and rapid urbanization, and by and large they have kept everyone adequately fed. And they have done this at a time when population pressures are much more severe than they were in Japan, the other great success story, at the time when it was developing.

Yet most of those I spoke to were careful to point out that it would be difficult to transpose Chinese political system into another culture. "Can one imagine the Indians adopting the British political system?", said one expert, "much less the Indians adopting the Chinese?"

It should also be remembered that our information on China is incomplete. We do not know what price in terms of human suffering and loss of individual freedom has been paid by the Chinese people for their economic and social success.

But with these reservations, the situation is clear—a way must be found of turning the priorities of the developing countries in the direction of the countryside. For that is where the root of all these problems is to be found. Maybe the model is China or Taiwan or Tanzania—all three have successful rural development records. But first must come the will.

Jonathan Power



Fact and fashionable fiction

Eighteen months ago a group of people all under 30, with very different skills and backgrounds—border guard in Israel, anaesthetic technician, and stage manager—rented a house off London's Portobello Road. All had worked for an underground paper and wanted to produce an English equivalent to the *Last Whole Earth Catalog*, the American underground mail order catalogue of ideas and tools for people wanting to get away from high technology and the city life.

The result, after many months of false starts, trials, discussions and disagreements is the *Index of Possibilities: Energy and Power*, the first volume of what they plan to be at least a three-part encyclopedia. It is a large, fat paperback (although there are some hardback copies), something of a cross between *Roget's Thesaurus*, the *Scientific American* and an underground magazine. It is full of extraordinary art work in black and white, cartoons, photographs, old prints and diagrams.

It has been produced entirely by nine co-authors and a couple of their friends, who between them researched, wrote, designed and typeset the book. The Catalogue, as the group call it, have now also designed and printed their own posters and leaflets for the advertising campaign.

The index started out as a list of reviews of books and publications on all aspects of energy and power. As they worked, at a huge round chipboard table that fills most of the main room, the writers found that they wanted to include more of their own ideas and research, and less reviews of other people's work. So the nature and title of the book changed, until it became a series of short, readable essays and entries on topics that

interested them. "We wanted to demystify science", explains John May, ex-editor of *Friends*. "Because we were not exactly producing an encyclopedia we didn't have to be certain to include everything."

The book is divided into eight sections—Universe, Earth, Mind and so on—and since the writers decided against using contributors because so much had to be discussed as it was being written, they rely heavily on quotations and extracts from other people, newspapers, magazine articles, textbooks, standard history books. "We make a few bold assertions of our own", says John May, "in the way textbooks can't. But we also felt that we might be badly attacked by experts so we have held back on our opinions and tended to back it all up with already published and accepted material." He says that writing the book was an education for all the collaborators, none of

whom are science specialists. "We wanted to broaden our horizons from the sort of things that can be covered in a magazine. Some of us knew nothing about the subject at all, we thought that if we can learn about it and understand then we can explain it to others."

The authors believe that there are many people interested in this kind of information, who cannot find what they want in conventional science books; they give a lot of space to fringe science topics, and hope the book will be used by students as an alternative to the usual textbooks.

Although they may be taking themselves rather too seriously since the content of the book is fashionable and superficial mixture of fact, fiction and odd ideas (for instance they strongly infer that the Vietnam War was principally about oil supplies), what can be said in its favour is that it may arouse an interest in people who would not otherwise tackle the topics at all.

The team has now moved on to a second volume, giving a similar sort of cross disciplinary treatment to structures and systems—everything from architects and animal building to social and mental structures. They say they have held back from approaching people they would like to interview for the first book because they felt they had nothing to show for their ideas. If it goes down well they will do more talking and rely more on their own judgments in future.

Bookellers in Britain and Australia have already ordered the index, and a version specially edited for America is in preparation. The *Last Whole Earth Catalog* is America, so it is possible that the last couple of years of austerity and all night working sessions in the house off Portobello Road may pay off.

Caroline Moorehead



Your right to a receipt

Shopping recently in a large store

I was spellbound by the dexterity

of the girl on the till. In conse-

quence I was unable to work out

what relation the figures she was

ringing up bore to the items I was

purchasing. I paid her £4.04, but

was so confused that I decided

before leaving to add them up

myself and, naturally, got a com-

pletely different total. If only

she had given me a receipt, I

thought I would have had no

difficulty in checking and went

along to have a moan with the

supervisor. She quickly demon-

strated that I had omitted to in-

clude one item and the total in

fact was £3.04. But there was

still a discrepancy of exactly £1.

I protested.

"We can soon check that",

said the supervisor brightly.

"Come over to the till and we

can look at the till roll." As

luck would have it, the machine

had gone wrong, and items had

not been registering on the till

roll. In fact I heard nothing more

from the store which was not sur-

prising as the supervisor told me

that she was going on holiday.

Was the store within its rights

in not giving me a receipt? In the

old case it was declared that any

one paying a debt was not entitled

to insist on having a receipt. The

right to demand a receipt was

given by the Stamp Act, 1791.

This made it criminal for a

trader to give a stamped receipt for any

sum over £2 subject to a fine.

However, in 1971 the stamp duty

of 2d on receipts was abolished

and, with its abolition it seems,

that our right to demand a receipt

is gone. In practice very few traders

would risk losing a purchase by

refusal to give a receipt when one

is demanded and most automatic

till prints out an itemized bill as

a matter of routine. But should

not every customer today be enti-

tled to a receipt as a matter of law to have

a receipt for his money?

Admittedly, when we pay by

cheque, a receipt is not essential.

When we pay by cash the payee

on the back is evidence that he

has received the amount. Since the

Cheques Act, 1957, even without

the payee's signature, a paid

cheque returned by your bank can

be produced in court as evidence

that he received the money.

While a receipt is evidence of

payment, it is not absolutely con-

clusive. For example, where a

receipt has been given in error,

or where a computerized account



COURT CIRCULAR

UCKINGHAM PALACE

October 17: His Excellency Mr David George Rousou was received this morning as presented by the Letters of Recall of his successor and his own Letters of audience as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Hellenic Republic to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by four members of the staff who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mme N. Diamantopoulos (Minister), Captain C. Panizzi-Parafatis (Armed Forces), Mme A. Exarchos (Minister), Captain G. Christou (Counselor), Captain A. Ladis (Shipping Attaché), Mme A. Zaphiroopoulos (Commercial Counsellor), Monsieur A. Zizas (Press Counsellor) and Mme A. Philiou (First Secretary).

Mme Rousou had the honour of being received by the Queen, Thomas Grimshaw (Personal Under-Secretary to the Queen and Commonwealth Sirs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, present and the Gentlemen of the Commonwealth Institute.

Having been received by the Queen, Captain D. H. P. Jones, the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Government, Commonwealth Institute (David Hunt), the Director, Mr. K. Thompson) and the Commissioners for Fiji (Henry John K. Rabobawa), attended the Fiji Commonwealth Day and witnessed a performance by the Dance of Fiji.

Majesty later toured the State arranged by Commonwealth Games.

Mrs Susan Hussey, Mr. G. Moore, Squadron Leader Bell and Major Robin Currie were in attendance.

Princess Anne, Mrs. Mary, this evening attended a performance of the Chippendales Circus at Cape Colours, London, in aid of Muscular Dystrophy Group of Britain.

Royal Highness was received upon arrival by the Mayor (Councillor Laurie) and in the foyer by the head of the Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain Richard Attenborough.

Rowena Brassy was in attendance.

INGTON PALACE

October 17: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, undertook engagements in and West and in the morning the Gateshead Western Star.

Royal Highness later visited Valley Trading Estate, Wembley, the English Industries' Corporation's award to the Armament Company. The Princess subsequently toured factory and inspected the nation's headquarters.

Royal Highness, who led in an aircraft of The Flight, attended by Anne Trentham and The Napier and Ettrick.

INGTON PALACE

October 17: Princess Alice of Gloucester was present at Reception and held at Lancaster House, in memory of the 25th anniversary of the death of Chopin.

Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

HOUSE MESS'S PALACE

October 17: The Duke of Kent, present, this evening dined in an Room at Wellington

tenant-Commander Richard F. RN, was in attendance. Duchess of Kent, as Chancellor of the University of Leeds, the centenary of the founding of the York College of Science, and was entertained to the Civic Hall by the Lord of Leeds.

Royal Highness, who led in an aircraft of The Flight, was attended by Anne Trentham and The Napier and Ettrick.

memorial service for Sir A. L. Duncan, of Jordans, will be held in the Old Church, Arbroath, on Friday 25, 1974, at 3 pm.

days today

red Broughton, MP, 72; Michael Salmon, 74; Lord I. 90; Mr Pierre Trudeau, 76; Janet Vaughan, 75; J. C. Walkley, 71.

results of the Michaelmas Bar examinations

ouncil of Legal Education

the following results of Michaelmas examinations, students of the Inn of

are indicated thus:

Inner Inn: 1. Inner Temple: G. Gray's Inn: 1. Bar final: 1. R. W. Tong, M. 2. R. G. P. 3. R. G. 4. R. G. 5. R. G. 6. R. G. 7. R. G. 8. R. G. 9. R. G. 10. R. G. 11. R. G. 12. R. G. 13. R. G. 14. R. G. 15. R. G. 16. R. G. 17. R. G. 18. R. G. 19. R. G. 20. R. G. 21. R. G. 22. R. G. 23. R. G. 24. R. G. 25. R. G. 26. R. G. 27. R. G. 28. R. G. 29. R. G. 30. R. G. 31. R. G. 32. R. G. 33. R. G. 34. R. G. 35. R. G. 36. R. G. 37. R. G. 38. R. G. 39. R. G. 40. R. G. 41. R. G. 42. R. G. 43. R. G. 44. R. G. 45. R. G. 46. R. G. 47. R. G. 48. R. G. 49. R. G. 50. R. G. 51. R. G. 52. R. G. 53. R. G. 54. R. G. 55. R. G. 56. R. G. 57. R. G. 58. R. G. 59. R. G. 60. R. G. 61. R. G. 62. R. G. 63. R. G. 64. R. G. 65. R. G. 66. R. G. 67. R. G. 68. R. G. 69. R. G. 70. R. G. 71. R. G. 72. R. G. 73. R. G. 74. R. G. 75. R. G. 76. R. G. 77. R. G. 78. R. G. 79. R. G. 80. R. G. 81. R. G. 82. R. G. 83. R. G. 84. R. G. 85. R. G. 86. R. G. 87. R. G. 88. R. G. 89. R. G. 90. R. G. 91. R. G. 92. R. G. 93. R. G. 94. R. 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H.E. colnbrook 3131

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities lower

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Oct 14. Dealings End Oct 25. 5 Contango Day, Oct 28. Settlement Day, Nov 5.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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1973/74	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Yield	Div	Yield
BRITISH FUNDS								
200 84% Trust	97.24	95.5		4.382	10.85			
201 82% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
202 83% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
203 84% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
204 85% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
205 86% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
206 87% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
207 88% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
208 89% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
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221 102% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
222 103% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
223 104% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
224 105% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
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228 109% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
229 110% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
230 111% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
231 112% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
232 113% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
233 114% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
234 115% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
235 116% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
236 117% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
237 118% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
238 119% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
239 120% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
240 121% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
241 122% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
242 123% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
243 124% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
244 125% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
245 126% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
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247 128% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
248 129% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
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251 132% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
252 133% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
253 134% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
254 135% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
255 136% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
256 137% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
257 138% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
258 139% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
259 140% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
260 141% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
261 142% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
262 143% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
263 144% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
264 145% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
265 146% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
266 147% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
267 148% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
268 149% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
269 150% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
270 151% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
271 152% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
272 153% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
273 154% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
274 155% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
275 156% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
276 157% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
277 158% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
278 159% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
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281 162% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
282 163% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
283 164% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
284 165% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
285 166% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
286 167% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
287 168% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
288 169% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
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290 171% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
291 172% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
292 173% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
293 174% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75			
294 175% Trust	97.25	95.5		4.382	10.75		</	

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

ASEA
advanced technology for the
STEEL INDUSTRY

Mr Healey again rejects high unemployment and hints at 3pc growth

By Mervyn Westlake
In a remarkably conciliatory speech to a City audience last night at the Mansion House Mr Denis Healey, the Chancellor, again rejected high unemployment as a policy for curing inflation. He appeared to hint at his objective was to achieve a growth level of about 3 per cent.

Mr Healey was speaking at a Lord Mayor's annual banquet for bankers and merchants of the City of London. He went considerably lengths—perhaps further than was publicly prudent—to repair the image of relations which had been damaged in recent months between the City and the Labour government.

The Chancellor referred in glowing terms to the contribution that the City made to Britain's economic wellbeing. However, he was quite unpromising on the issue of employment. All recent evidence had shown that unemployment at a level which a society could tolerate was a cure for inflation, he said.

Indeed, it was more "likely to be inflation worse—not only because it increased unit costs, also because it was liable to trigger higher wage demands as trade unions sought a proportion of their members with a view against the risk of unemployment".

Mr Healey added, "I simply cannot understand, it can make economic sense

to dole out some £900m a year in unemployment pay, redundancy pay and supplementary benefit to keep a million active men and women idle—when the nation needs the goods they could produce".

His hint about a 3 per cent growth rate came when he said that provided overall demand—foreign as well as domestic—was prevented from outstripping the growth in Britain's productive capacity (which is roughly about 3 per cent) the Government's ability to control inflation would depend on ensuring that the general level of price settlements did not rise above that needed to cover increases in the cost of living.

Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, who also spoke firmly took up the cause of Britain's ailing industrial and commercial companies.

In uncompromising language, the Governor said that companies—including those in the public sector—had to make profits. Companies were "not the enemy of the people, entrenched on the other side of no man's land".

They were bodies who organized employment and output and turned savings into productive investment.

In the two years to the middle of this year, industry had to find £6,000m to finance stock appreciation, he said. To meet this, and to pay tax on nominal profits thrown up in this process, industry had had

Hawker men threaten work-in over 146 closure

Hawker Siddeley was yesterday threatened with a "work-in" if it pushed ahead with its plan to close the HS146 airbus project from Monday.

Mr John Rowan, divisional organizer of the AUEW, calling the company's Hatfield, Hertfordshire, factory, said his members in the design team would continue working on the project "come what may".

He said: "About 250 of my members have decided to resist any attempts to take the work away from them. Their jobs are in jeopardy and they will continue to work on until the company reverses its decision."

Mr Rowan accused Hawker Siddeley of "political blackmail" by announcing it would have to abandon the airbus because of increased costs.

In effect, the company has told the Government to provide extra money if it wants to save the project.

He also believed that if inflation accounting was adopted, it would lead to a better understanding of the problems that companies now faced.

Turning to monetary policy, the Governor said that he hoped in the year ahead to "avoid large divergences from recent monetary trends".

By this he meant the Bank of England would be aiming to maintain the lower rate of monetary expansion and the gentle easing of interest rates.

However, these objectives would depend on the measures taken to help company liquidity.

Bankers' dinner speeches, page 24

American GNP drop confirms recession

By Frank Vogl

Washington, Oct 17
The United States is now moving into a deepening recession, having had three consecutive quarters of negative economic growth, while the pace of inflation continues to accelerate, according to provisional Department of Commerce figures published today.

Real gross national product fell by 2.9 per cent in the quarter of this year. Real fell by 1.6 per cent in the third quarter and by 7 per cent in the first three months of year.

Inflation, as measured by the unit price deflator in the figures, rose in the third quarter to 11.5 per cent, from 10 per cent in the second quarter. President Ford maintained last week that America is in recession, but this view is no longer be sustained with

the clear evidence of three straight quarters of declining economic growth.

The latest data must come as a severe shock to many senior Administration officials who have long been suggesting that the improvement in the GNP between the first and the second quarters of this year indicated that the trend of real growth was upward.

The figures, showing clearly the rise in United States economic difficulties on both the recession and inflation fronts, will almost certainly produce still louder calls for tougher policies by the President.

The degree of deterioration reflected in the latest data compared with the figures for the second quarter, was certainly not expected by the chief architects of the Administration's latest economic policy programme, that was announced last week.

'Possibility' of insider deals in Dexion bid

By Terry Byland

Formal announcement yesterday by The Stock Exchange Council of its inquiry into deals in Dexion-Comit International shares ahead of last July's bid from the United States suggests that "some of those who dealt may have had advance information".

The council's report is a clear indication of its intention to expose any examples of insider trading.

A copy of the report has been sent to the Special Committee on the Takeover Panel, whose chairman, Lord Shawcross, has "described" insider dealing as "criminal". Sir Martin Wilkins, the previous chairman of The Stock Exchange, was equally forthright in his condemnation of the practice, which he said was tantamount to theft.

Shares in Dexion, not normally active, rose from 12p to 16p between June 30 and July 19, and then made further progress before the announcement of a 33p a share cash offer from Interlake Inc of the United States.

The council's inquiry, which embraced evidence from 27 brokers and four jobbing firms, disclosed 102 transactions in Dexion shares in the period under review. Combined purchases and sales involved more than 730,000 shares, while the number of clients identified as dealing—72—suggests a substantial proportion of relatively small deals.

The published report from the council has disclosed considerably more detail than have previous reports. The council has not previously published the number of member firms interviewed on the number of clients and shares involved.

The move to fuller disclosure has been foreshadowed in the past few weeks by indications from council members that the Exchange wished to publish more details of inquiries into insider trading, even to the extent of "naming names".

It now remains for the Takeover Panel to take any further action it deems necessary.

The lay-offs plunge the town of Barrow into a grave crisis, since Vickers employs about a third of the working population of the area.

The dispute centres on the rejection by the unions of a new pay deal. The 2,300 ancillary workers, who drive cranes, internal transporters and man the stores, walked out on Monday demanding that the wage difference between themselves and skilled workers must be closed.

The rest of the workforce, including 2,000 engineers who have also stopped work, are protesting about a management plan to make a £5 a week bonus—part of the new deal—conditional on good attendance and timekeeping. They say it must be incorporated in new basic rates "without strings".

Vickers is working on orders for destroyers, submarines and a command cruiser worth together about £225m.

ICD study S possibility oil price cut

By Peter Vilevsky

High oil prices for crude will depress the world and to the point where by members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting countries will lower their prices—but face possible dismemberment over production.

Confidential report to the institution for Economic Cooperation and Development that the productive capacity of OPEC countries is expected to rise to 42.8 million barrels a day from last level of 30.5 million b/d.

The study, which appears today's issue of the *Petroleum Times* adds that if prices at their current level, oil will fall to 28.7 million a day. Even if oil fell to \$6 a barrel it would only be 36.8 million barrels a day.

OECD study claims that basis of market forces oil imports into member states could be down 46 per cent pre-crisis estimates if remain stable, and 28 per cent if oil prices dropped 60 a barrel. Economic indigenous products and the use of other fuels account for the fall.

Strikes bring Vickers shipyard to standstill

By Our Northern Industrial Correspondent

All production at the Vickers shipyard and associated engineering works at Barrow in Furness will be at a standstill tonight because of two separate pay strikes involving 4,300 workers. The rest of the 7,000-strong manual workforce will be laid off tonight and a further 7,000 face lay-off early next week.

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ne nations sign contract for computer network

Roger Berthoud

is Oct 17
ambitious nine-nation plan which a European computer network took an important forward with the signing of 30,000 initial contract for sign and development of prototype system. At first, research centres will be given successful development a wider European network will embrace such fields as records, job moves, and even travel reservations.

contract has been won stiff competition by an French consortium of six consultants, Logica. They have appointed contractors Fides of Land and Selenia of using French CII.

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How the markets moved

Rises
Barclays Inv 2p to 18p
Barclays 2p to 11p
First Home Surs 6p to 16p
BLMC 1p to 10p
Com Union 1p to 82p
Furness Withy 6p to 128p
Gallagher 7p to 103p

Falls
Barclays Bk 3p to 140p
Barclays E. Hldgs 6p to 20p
Brit Enkajon 1p to 11p
Dunlop Hldgs 3p to 30p
Fisons 2p to 177p
GEC 3p to 68p
Hawker Sidd 5p to 185p

Equities were unsettled. Gil-edged securities remained quiet, with the index rising 5 points to \$2,330. The "effective devaluation" rate was 18.6 per cent. Gold gained \$1 at \$155.00. SDR—\$ was 1.19446 on Thursday.

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Slater Walker injection of cash for insurance company offshoot

By Christopher Wilkins

Slater, Walker Securities is to inject new funds into its insurance company during the next few weeks. This was revealed yesterday when the group made a public affirmation of its "inherent financial strength" in an attempt to halt the share price slide which has followed the Jessel Securities financial crisis.

The group blamed its share price collapse on "rumours" which appear to be based upon the fact that Jessel Securities owns a unit trust group and an insurance company and for that reason Slater, Walker Securities may be encountering similar problems.

John Plender wrote: Shares in Edward Bates, the banking and insurance group which owns Welfare Insurance, plunged to a new low point yesterday as rumours of further trouble in insurance swept the stock market.

Bates is known to be trying to sell Welfare, which it acquired in 1973 for £15m.

The group said that Slater, Walker Insurance, like other insurance companies, had suffered from the fall in stock market prices during the past 12 months, but had a strong liquidity position with £21m in cash deposited with leading banks.

This was 37 per cent of total funds and compared with a total surrender value of all income bonds of £27m. Heavy redemptions of income bonds lay at the root of the problems encountered by Jessel's insurance subsidiary, London Indemnity and General.

While income bonds were a substantial part of the insurance company's business, Slater said there was also a broad spread of other business with recurring premium income. Steps were to be taken to strengthen the company's share capital.

The group's unit trusts were 38 per cent liquid, with cash balances of £15m placed by the trustees with leading banks outside the group.

The parent company, Slater, Walker Securities, had substantial cash resources of its own and £20m of unused reserve bank facilities. In addition, net current assets were in excess of £105m and uncharged free assets had a market value in excess of £65m.

Welfare wrote a number of guaranteed income bond policies before the Budget earlier this year removed the tax attractions of this form of investment.

However, the proportion of guaranteed income bond business is understood to be much less than London Indemnity, the troubled insurance subsidiary of Jessel Securities.

But the company has attracted

some criticism in the City since an unusually high proportion of its £57m life fund is committed to two property companies. The larger of the two commitments is to an unquoted development group, Aspen Securities, which made an attributable loss of £288,000 in the latest reported financial year.

Rumours of liquidity trouble in the banking subsidiary of Edward Bates & Sons (Holdings) have also been denied. Edward Bates & Sons is the latest bank to have been granted full authorization by the Bank of England.

Jessel talks: Discussion on the future of London Indemnity and Jessel Securities continue.

Mr. Benn: The group has not suffered from a spate of redemptions from its policyholders, the Bates' share price closed 6p lower at 20p, where the group is valued at under £3m compared with nearly £50m at its peak last year.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Department of Trade confirmed that consultations had taken place with Welfare. The department was watching the situation closely, he said, but he declined to comment further.

Last November the Department of Trade imposed a control order on Welfare, along with a number of other insurance groups, as a routine measure under the Insurance Companies' Amendments Act.

This required the company to deposit sufficient assets with an approved trustee to meet its moral liabilities.

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Transport engineers seek new structure

By Derek Harris

There was another development last night in the struggle for possible restructuring of the more than 40 bodies representing professional engineers in the United Kingdom.

This time it concerned the Institute of Road Transport Engineers whose membership of more than 8,500 runs from chartered engineers to engineering technicians.

The I.R.T.E. as an institute has no charter and so does not belong to the Council of Engineering Institutions which is the umbrella body for the 15 engineering institutions that have royal charters.

There has been much skirmishing between non-chartered bodies and the CEI because engineers are going to need approved status if they are to practice anywhere within the EEC.

The struggle took a new turn when three of the chartered organisations, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Institution of Electrical Engineers, called for the CEI to be replaced within the EEC body.

At the annual meeting of the Road Transport Engineers last night, Earl Howe, their president, proved more radical than the three chartered institutions.

He said: "Real progress and effective reorganization of the profession lies in the representation of all occupations on the controlling Council of the whole profession. At present there is not one single representative of three-quarters of the profession, the non-chartered engineers.

"This is in our view has been one of the fundamental reasons for the absence of participation, the lack of status and therefore rewards and recruits which the profession, particularly the young chartered engineers, are complaining about."

The RTE plan is for the whole profession to be organized into groups representing the natural technological divisions, taking members of both chartered and non-chartered bodies.

New minister for Mr Ford

Washington, Oct. 17.—President Ford has appointed Mr Charles W. Robinson, 55, of San Francisco, as United States Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs. He will succeed Mr William J. Casey, now the head of the United States Export-Import Bank.

Since 1965 Mr Robinson has been president and general manager of Marconi Corporation, an international shipping, mining and resource development company.

Turin call for a 'state of crisis' proclamation in car industry

From John Earle

Rome, Oct. 17
Turin Industrialists' Association has formally requested the authorities to proclaim a "state of crisis" in the Italian motor vehicle industry.

The effect will enable workers who are laid off or put on short time to collect 80 per cent of their wages in government unemployment benefits, instead of 67 per cent as at present.

More than 71,000 workers of Fiat and its subsidiary Lancia in the Turin area are working a three-day week in an attempt to reduce the stock of unsold cars below 300,000.

The state-owned Alfa Romeo, Italy's second largest car manufacturer, agreed on talks with the trade unions in Milan last

night to shelve plans to put 13,000 workers on short time.

Instead, the firm will close for five days in the week beginning November 4 to extend the public holiday for Armistice Day on that Monday by another four days.

The management is, however, reported to have warned union representatives that the company's debts at present amount to over 100,000m lire and are likely to rise by the end of the year to 150,000m lire (107m).

Detroit, Oct. 17.—Chrysler, the car group apparently worst affected by the current slow down in sales, has confirmed that it is making sweeping economies to shore up its dwindling profit.

The group disclosed only the broad outlines of what it called

"an intensive cost-reduction programme" being undertaken because of current economic conditions."

But it was learned that the programme could involve potentially huge lay-offs of clerical workers, consolidations and elimination of many staff jobs, possible cutbacks in capital spending and even the permanent closing of one of Chrysler's six United States assembly plants.

A Chrysler spokesman said the cutbacks involved "reducing fixed costs, combining operations where we can, reorganizing departments for better cost control and improved efficiency, reviewing capital-spending plans and deferring programmes not immediately essential".

The survey shows that the level of orders in hand suggests that high production will be sustained well into 1975, but the flow of subsequent orders is already slowing down.

The decline in new orders

Output of capital goods likely to fall

By David Young

A warning that there is likely to be a reduction in the output of engineering companies supplying capital goods to the consumer goods and construction industries is contained in a report. This is the latest quarterly survey by the short term trends working party of the Mechanical Engineering Little Nellies.

The survey shows that the level of orders in hand suggests that high production will be sustained well into 1975, but the flow of subsequent orders is already slowing down.

The decline in new orders

Received in the first half of this year in part reflects a reluctance by manufacturers to extend their order books still further.

Nevertheless, a significant further reduction in orders is expected, particularly from the home market, because of the slow growth of the economy.

This reduction is expected to be particularly severe from producer industries, particularly the construction industry and other industries which sell a large proportion of their output on the export market.

This is unlikely to be fully compensated for by increased demand from the process industries and from other industries with substantial export markets.

The one area where demand is expected to increase is in the manufacture of oil exploration plant. The survey says that it is likely that capacity in this sector of the industry will be placed under a severe strain.

"This remains our policy," Mr David Orr, chairman of Unilever, said in an interview. "We are very heavily orientated to Europe.

"Although we believe that it is a strength because the countries of Europe are going to prosper, we would like to get our investment a little more widely spread. For a multinational company we are under-invested in north America."

A spokesman for Metal Box's General Line group said that the 100 per cent acquisition would provide closer integration of Weleco's sales effort

Metal box buys Dutch distribution concern

By Edward Townsend

New plans designed to capture a larger share of the recruitment market at professional and executive level have been drawn up by Professional and Executive Recruitment, the Department of Employment-sponsored service.

The plans were announced yesterday by Mr Dewi Rees, director of PER. They include a new service for recruiting senior secretaries and personal assistants which will compete with the existing private agencies.

Fees charged to employers will be substantially less than those charged by existing agencies and rebates will be given if the employee leaves within four weeks.

A new interviewing service will be introduced which will enable PER to submit for a vacancy a short-list of candidates who have already been interviewed by a senior employment consultant.

Other developments include the introduction of a detailed quarterly employment market survey for employers and a re-modelling of the PER recruitment advertising service to offset increased advertising rates without loss of impact.

American permit for Aston soon

Aston Martin directors told the Government yesterday that the vital certificate allowing the company to re-enter the American car market was expected within the next few days.

The company met Department of Industry officials to bring them up to date with latest developments. Aston Martin is seeking a government loan of at least £500,000 to see it through its liquidity problems.

No statement was made after the meeting. It is expected that a Ministerial decision on the application for state aid will not be made immediately.

with that of the group's export sales force to meet demand from an increasingly international European market.

Metal Box is confident of a considerable expansion in Europe in certain specialized sectors.

Unilever looks at America: Unilever is carefully surveying the American business scene for opportunities of a takeover. It decided some time ago it wanted to get stronger in the United States, both by continued growth of its operations there and by buying.

"This remains our policy," Mr David Orr, chairman of Unilever said in an interview. "We are very heavily orientated to Europe.

"Although we believe that it is a strength because the countries of Europe are going to prosper, we would like to get our investment a little more widely spread. For a multinational company we are under-invested in north America."

A spokesman for Metal Box's General Line group said that the 100 per cent acquisition would provide closer integration of Weleco's sales effort

U.S. industries use less petrol

Washington, Oct. 17.—Consumption and imports of petroleum products in the United States continue to fall at a significantly lower level than a year ago, Federal energy authorities said here.

Consumption in September was 16,100,000 barrels a day, or 6.6 per cent down on a year earlier. Imports last month were about 6,000,000 barrels a day, or 8.8 per cent down on a year earlier. The drop was almost entirely attributed to a fall in the industrial sector. The motoring public has returned to a consumption level of a year ago.

In calling for the removal of increases in advance corporation tax, the association describes the rates of capital transfer tax as excessive.

Cash problems: Birmingham Chamber of Commerce has written to the Secretary of State for Industry, saying that the Government's professed intention to secure a healthy private sector in the economy would be "mere empty words" without early action to restore industry's cash problems.

He has been told by the association that priority must be given to fighting inflation with an easing of price controls, although the "easy" yet dangerous option of manufacturing credit artificially must not be taken.

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While on the subject of bank

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Research into behaviour of structures for building

From Dr D. A. Senior
Sir, Professor Harris in his letter of October 10 asks that a centre be set up charged with the task of collecting and making available for inspection the results of tests on structures built with high alumina cement (HAC) concrete. He suggests that such a centre might be set up in The Building Research Establishment.

As head of the engineering department at BRE may I be allowed to comment. I fully endorse his view that structural designers must somehow be given more information about the way in which structures behave in practice, and that this can best be done through collection and distribution of test data without identification of specific buildings. This is not to shield any incompetence but to secure the data.

The need for data about buildings of all kinds, not only those built with HAC, is stressed in the BRE annual report for 1973, and is the subject of an item in the published BRE research programme for 1974-75.

It is intended to broadly based

studies we are currently carrying out an extensive programme of non-destructive and destructive tests on HAC members removed from buildings. The comparative data will be published as soon as possible. We have, therefore, already moved some timetables towards proposal.

Finally, I should mention the DOE circular issued to local authorities and others on July 20 this year. It requested local authorities to make available to BRE the results of all engineering appraisals of buildings containing HAC in their ownership, together with the results of any tests carried out on roofs and other structural members, and it suggested that private owners should be asked to make their results available in the same way.

May I use this letter to urge the utmost in cooperation.

Yours faithfully,
D. A. SENIOR,
Assistant Director,
Department of the Environment,
Building Research Station,
Garston.

True facts about U.S. contracts at Felixstowe Dock

From Mr Gordon Parker
Sir, In The Times of September 23 you reported remarks by Mr John Lynch, director-general of the Port of London Authority. You stated that within the past few weeks a major American concern had shifted its United Kingdom terminal from Felixstowe to Tilbury, and said that the cargo involved had amounted to 200,000 tons annually.

This is entirely without foundation.

On a previous occasion it was stated in the annual statement of the chairman of the Port of London Authority that, exemplifying the efficiency of the PLA, two services had quit Felixstowe and come to London. This was only partially correct; one of the services merely moved London in call. But reference was not made to the following year to the facts that they had both had enough and returned to Felixstowe.

I am aware in the making of comparison, but if my port is to be regarded by the PLA as being the yardstick by which its own efficiency is measured, then one might surely expect some degree of accuracy.

Your obedient servant,
GORDON PARKER,
The Felixstowe Dock
and Railway Company,
Suffolk.

Liability in car accidents

From Mr C. J. Russell
Sir, May I, as an individual, reply to Mr Barrow's letter with regard to his plea to car insurers.

It is quite right in what he says, but there is a simple method of dealing with this problem without recourse to the police or breach of policy conditions. Immediately after the accident both parties should agree what happened and to write this down in factual form.

This is not an admission of liability, but obviously states what did happen, and as both parties have signed it then neither are able to retract it.

One further point to be considered is the question of a professional intermediary to assist in these problems. The majority of brokers who belong to the leading bodies of brokers are able to give excellent impartial advice on this and other matters of insurance.

I trust that this information is of assistance to Mr Barrow and any other person placed in this predicament.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. RUSSELL,
The Chestnuts,
Silsey,
Boston, Lincolnshire.

EDUCATIONAL STUDENTSHIPS

University of Nottingham
Medical School

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY
AUTONOMIC NERVOUS CONTROL OF THE CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

Applications are invited from physiologists, pharmacologists, biochemists, and others interested in training research methods to be undertaken in November 1975. Full details are available from the Department of Physiology, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2RD.

Facilities are available for the postgraduate student to meet a group working on various aspects of the autonomic nervous control of the cardiovascular system. Applications should be sent as soon as possible to Dr P. R. Newlands, Department of Physiology, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2RD.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES

BERGER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for the above post for two years. USE OF COLOUR IN HISTORIC BUILDINGS. The project, which is sponsored by Berger Paints Ltd, is designed to develop research methods to be undertaken in November 1975. Full details are available from the Department of Architecture, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2RD.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Warning signals from Philips Lamp

Whether or not yesterday's wage treatment of the Philips lamp share price—down £1.3 to 20.90 in Amsterdam and 70p 51p in London—was an over-action will only be proved, or disproved, in the light of next month's third quarter figures. But so there is nothing encouraging in the fact that a major international company which was still relatively bullish a couple of months back appears to be back-tracking in short a space of time.

Earlier in the year it was able to go along with Philips' hopes of maintaining margins on a 9 per cent sales rise (in money terms) only on the assumption that the professional end of the business would enjoy a reasonably good year and that, outside the United Kingdom at least, consumer spending would hold up, particularly in the main European markets where colour vision penetration was still relatively low. And, despite a dip in both the sales momentum and margins in the second quarter, it still looked after six months that Philips might just get there.

Clearly, however, that is no longer on, and the assumption the basis of yesterday's statement that full-year profitability would not now be as originally expected, is that consumer markets worldwide are getting progressively tougher. So, with stock levels at end June up from 29 per cent year previously, to 31 per cent, it is no great surprise to hear about short-time hiring (already in operation) in Germany, Belgium, Australia and soon in India. And from what I have seen, it is a quick step to margins. Just how much is still to be seen but the important question is still to be the development of consumer and professional cycles through 1975.

sey

good

It

It seems to be heading for £1.49m before his year (against £40m) indicating that the first quarter movement of 23 per cent is gained. This fits in neatly with the fact that the first quarter has produced 16 per cent of total profit in each of the three years. There are no surprises in the quarter. Last year's much-reduced proportion of overtrades—48 per cent, including exports—has been mainly, though question marks remain over North America's semi-conductor packaging demand has not yet shown seasonal autumn revival, alia, too, was disappointing. The first period but this we must look to the devaluation of the dollar there.

Against the £49m order (as at the start of the year) the obviously going to more, even without inflows and the additional funds needed has been around £1.4m. This disguises a 23 per cent improvement in operating margins, which in turn is Plessey's inflection point order book, well provided with variation clauses, have remained relatively flat at 65p where the gross profit is around 5.5c.

Quarter: 1974-75 (1973-74)

Revenue £118m

Profit £8.4m (£8.1m)

Net profit £7.9m (£6.4m)



Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey, improved operating margins.

Hewden-Stuart

The cost structure

The key to Hewden-Stuart's surprisingly good first-half performance—a sales rise of 8.2 per cent and an increase of nearly 4 per cent in the profit level—appears to be the high proportion of directly variable overheads in the group's cost structure.

With wages and repairs accounting for about 70 per cent of pre-depreciation costs, a boom in the plant hire side results in what the group sees as an uncontrollable rise in costs.

In the first half, plant hire sales in the Scottish companies continued buoyant, probably on the back of North Sea Oil activity, but profitability was down because of higher wage and machinery costs.

The English divisions, on the other hand, suffered on the back of a fall in line with the fall in construction activity, but profits here provided most of the £55.8m improvement at the trading level.

Meanwhile, the group has cut back capital spending to around half last year's level. Expenditure was £2m in the first six months, with perhaps another £1.25m scheduled for the second half, against the 1973 total of £6m. So this is more than comfortably covered by this year's estimated cash-flow of £6m, which also puts into perspective the rise in total borrowings to £6m since the last balance-sheet date, reflected in interim interest charges up from £270,000 to £400,000.

Sales are evidently holding up well in the second half, indicating an outcome of around £2.6m pre-tax for the full year as against £2.25m. Assuming that last year's low tax charge is repeated, a prospective p/e ratio of 3.6 with the shares at 33p, up 2p yesterday, looks a reasonable proposition.

So 1974/75 profit growth is going to depend heavily on whether material supply for re-rolling improves. The problem is that if it does, it could well coincide with a slowing of orders and would probably involve Ductile in some restocking from the present run-down level.

So 1974/75 profit growth is going to depend heavily on whether material supply for re-rolling improves. The problem is that if it does, it could well coincide with a slowing of orders and would probably involve Ductile in some restocking from the present run-down level.

Admittedly that should pose few financing difficulties—Ductile paid off its overdrafts last year and is now in a net cash position—but the assumption must be that, one way or another, there will be some easing in the growth rate as the present year progresses. At 33p the shares are selling at 2.7 times earnings and yield 10.4 per cent and are clearly expecting the worst.

Final: 1973/74 (1972/73)

Capitalization £5.9m

Sales £12m (£10m)

Pre-tax profits £1.27m (£1.03m)

Dividend gross 0.745p (0.609p)

GUS

Balance-sheet strength

Balance-sheet strength on the ascendant is the theme to emerge from the Great Universal Stores—a feature which will stand the group in good stead

Quarter: 1974-75 (1973-74)

Revenue £118m

Profit £8.4m (£8.1m)

Net profit £7.9m (£6.4m)

Business Diary: Institutional archetypes • Post Office first

Pickford is on the receiving end of a daily barrage of mail from people all over the world wanting to know if he is an architect.

He is in the Royal Institute of British Architects education department, will tell any of the ears to listen much more than architects.

And two strands in his life pointed to a couple of situations in which the wind was at his back.

Pickford said that she is at some of the letters he receives from young children just like him.

There are also more and more inquiries from established people in banking or accountancy, or from reluctant members of family firms.

They may be anything from 30 to 50 years old, and having put by some money have decided to use it to finance their long training.

This Mrs Pickford thinks, is not so much because of gloom over the economic situation as a desire to break out of careers that they feel stifle their creative impulse.

Woman chief

A century of Post Office history is being rounded off rather neatly with the corporation's decision to appoint Ena Knight as its first woman director of a telecommunications region.

Miss Knight is to succeed James Colthorpe as director of the eastern region, on his departure to become director of Post Office Telecommunications.

Eton, whence comes a dream of letters about her own husband, she pension-conscious that in many homes

at the moment there is a general atmosphere of "Where will we all be 10 years from now if this goes on?" and the children just soak it up with their cornflakes.

Conversely, many older people are becoming younger in their pastimes, according to Mrs Pickford.

There are married women who, with their children old enough to go to school, are now embarking upon the seven to nine years' training that it takes to become an architect.

There are also more and more inquiries from established people in banking or accountancy, or from reluctant members of family firms.

They may be anything from 30 to 50 years old, and having put by some money have decided to use it to finance their long training.

This Mrs Pickford thinks, is not so much because of gloom over the economic situation as a desire to break out of careers that they feel stifle their creative impulse.

She particularly remembers a letter from a 13-year-old which had four pages on it, including pension and asked for details of creative salaries between her and other professions today and "in 10 years' time".

She, of course, can read anything we write, but as kids just are not as they were when we were young.

Pickford says that we are getting far better officers than they ever speak in glowing terms.

Eton, whence comes a dream of letters about her own husband, she pension-conscious that in many homes

over the staff as well as the equipment of the private companies.

Among them were found to be a few women operators, whose continued employment in the same place as men was regarded by the department as a "hazardous experiment".

By the early 1870s, however, women were actually being hired because "the wages that will draw male operators from but an inferior class of the community, will draw female operators from a superior class". Besides, since women then left on marriage, "there will always be fewer females than males on the pension list."

In 1872 a PMG was saying:

"When it was announced that there were 12 vacancies for junior counter-women at wages from 14s to 17s a week, more than 1,200 candidates presented themselves."

There were so many, indeed, that Cannon Row was blocked up by aspiring lady clerks besieging the offices of the Civil Service Commissioners. All those were the days!

Yacht man

The Post Office was, in fact, one of the first advocates of the wider employment of women in jobs usually reserved to men. However, the motives had more to do with self-interest than anything else, and the Post-Master-General of the past century were only gradually opening a path blazed by private enterprise.

In an admirable but now out-of-print TUC publication, *Women in the Trade Union Movement*, there is a reference to the Telegraph Act of 1869 which gave the Post Office the monopoly of inland telegraphs but obliged the PMG to take

made into another West Australian developer, Landall Holdings.

Terry Hogan, the deputy chairman of Perth stock exchange, said the exchange was perturbed about reports that the companies had encountered liquidity problems, but said there was no suggestion of trading in their shares being suspended.

Both companies are said to be asking for help from the federal government, while buyers' bids for the 50 per cent shares of the Bond Corporation plunged on the Perth exchange yesterday from 10 cents to half a cent, although no shares were on offer. In the last trading of Bond shares on Tuesday they changed hands at 12 cents.

The Western Australian state Premier, Sir Charles Court, said that his government had no intention of aiding the two companies.

Bond, a flamboyant figure reputed to be one of Australia's richest men, was born in Penrith, London, and came to Australia at the age of 15. He began as a signwriter and bought his first plot near Perth with money given to him by his family.

His main brainchild is a vast seaside housing and holiday resort, Yanchep Sun City, about 75 miles north of Perth, where he built a harbour and marina. Southern Cross is berthed there.

The Bond Corporation also owns land north of Perth and near Melbourne. Inquiries are also being

When £3,000m is not £3,000m

How much reflation? Peter Jay, Economics Editor, examines recent reports

be broadly neutral in its impact on total demand. In other words the CBI is even less disposed to entertain a reflational Budget than the Treasury's first informal guess at what may be needed.

It has been paying attention to the meaning of reflation, and the significance of particular measurements of the required or likely degree of "reflation". "Reflation" is a term specific to those post-Keynesian notions of economic management which have dominated British official (and much unofficial) thinking in the postwar era of the full employment commitment.

Here a digression is needed on the meaning of the word "reflation" and on the significance of particular measurements of the required or likely degree of "reflation". "Reflation" is a term specific to those post-Keynesian notions of economic management which have dominated British official (and much unofficial) thinking in the postwar era of the full employment commitment.

Thus reflation only has to do with direct spending on goods and services, so that—with minor qualifications—the total flow of spending so defined equals the total flow of output (minus exports, plus imports), on which in turn employment more or less directly depends.

Thus, over-simplified, the conventional postwar view sees a prospective rise in unemployment as a prospective shortfall in the flow of spending (as defined), which in turn indicates the required degree of corrective reflation.

The contribution of individual reflational measures is measured not in terms of the effects of the Government's cash position, but in terms of their estimated effect on the total flow of spending in the economy.

The CBI's £3,000m referred to an entirely different quantity, namely the prospective financial deficit of industrial and commercial companies in Britain this year will be between £4,500m and £5,000m.

This is unquestionably very high and compares with a deficit of £870m last year and a worst ever deficit of £1,175m in 1970 when the peak effects of Mr Roy Jenkins' monetary stringency were being felt.

It is also broadly true that over the past 20 years or so the financial surplus/deficit of industrial and commercial companies has tended to average £4,500m and £5,000m.

It is also true that a senior CBI spokesman said this week that the financial relief needed by industrial and commercial companies was of this

less dividends and debenture, loan and other interest payments, less transfers to charities, less profits due abroad and taxes paid abroad, less United Kingdom taxes on income plus capital transfers (ie, investment grants), less capital expenditure, less taxes on capital, less stock appreciation.

Rather less than half the job, the CBI believes, could and should be done by relaxing price control in such a way as to add between 1½ and 2 per cent to retail prices. This does not add at all to the Budget deficit (indeed if applied to nationalized industries could reduce it) and reduces the total flow of spending in the economy measured in real, or "volume", terms because consumers will cut their spending much more than companies will increase their investment in response.

In so far as the remaining £1,500-£2,000m of relief for companies is found through tax concessions and increased government spending grants and loans, this will only add to the Budget deficit in so far as no compensating adjustments are made in other taxes and public outlays.

Even if it does increase the Government's borrowing requirement, this will only add to the money supply in so far as the Bank of England fails to raise its rate of long-term government debt accordingly, though to do so it might have to raise interest rates sharply.

The CBI further claims that any residual net tendency of the measures it wants to boost the total flow of spending can be set against the effects of the measures on supply, which will be enhanced by removing the threat of insolvency from those companies which are at present turning away profitable orders for lack of working capital and from those companies which are in danger of going out of business altogether.

In essence the CBI's claim is that a massive switch of cash flow and income from the public and personal sectors to the company sector, calculated so as to produce a broadly neutral effect on the total flow of spending.

Whether this can be done consistently with the spirit and health of the social contract is something which the Chancellor will be pondering deeply and one suspects unhappily over the next two or three weeks.

sort of order of magnitude, ie, thousands rather than hundreds of millions of pounds.

But it is not at all the CBI's view that this need be done entirely in ways which add to the Budget deficit, or in ways which add to the total flow of spending in the economy. Nor do they think that it should be done in such ways.

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THE BANKERS' DINNER

Britain suffering from a hangover of over-indulgence in easy money

The imminence of my autumn Budget makes this year's speech especially difficult—but perhaps less dangerous. For I know you will appreciate that I cannot trespass on areas which might be held to anticipate my Budget judgment; I am sure the Governor and others will not hesitate to draw my attention to some of the factors of which I must then take account.

I therefore propose to start on a different note by paying tribute to the way in which, during the difficult circumstances of the last 12 months, the institutions of the City have not only continued to make their unique contribution to our prosperity, but have risen to meet the challenge of new responsibilities.

At the time of my March Budget, I announced that the Bank of the Government and clearing banks had arranged an unprecedented £1 billion facility to help in financing the oil deficit; my special thanks are due to everyone who was involved in this smooth and efficient transaction. Many are here tonight.

The loan has so far remained untouched. And I have no immediate need to employ it. But under the conditions of the agreement, drawings must begin now if I wish to be able to take up the whole loan. Since the terms you negotiated in March are even more attractive in current conditions, I am proposing to begin to draw it now.

Prals is also due for the unobtrusive but effective way in which the City has eased the strains which in recent months have affected a number of financial institutions.

Thanks to your efforts we have survived these strains a good deal better than some of our competitors. Indeed, the collective skill and responsibility you have shown in this regard under the discreet but powerful leadership of Mr Governor has been an important factor in the strength of sterling throughout this present year.

This does not mean I can approve of all the activities which have contributed to the strains you have so successfully accommodated. We in Britain have been suffering this year from something of a hangover after our earlier over-indulgence in the frothy brew of competi-

Mr Denis Healey
Chancellor of the Exchequer

tion for easy money. The experience will not have been without its value if its lessons have now been thoroughly digested.

At the heart of the international problem, of course, lies the increase in oil prices. Estimates now indicate that, as a result of this the oil producers will this year earn some 70 billion dollars or so more than they can spend on goods and services from the consumer countries.

The implications of this hard and inescapable fact were at the core of the discussions in the annual meetings of the IMF and IBRD held earlier this month in Washington. At these and other meetings with my international colleagues, I have stressed that readjustment to such a transfer of financial resources necessarily imposes a number of obligations on the international community as a whole; four such obligations seem to me to be crucial.

First, an obligation on the oil consuming nations to live with very substantial payoffs in deficits on oil account for the time being. Second, an obligation on oil producing countries to ensure that the massive problems of the less developed are not exacerbated by deficient demand for their products; third, an obligation on those countries which have underlying deficits on their non-oil trade to work towards balance; and fourth, an obligation on surplus countries to enable them to do so.

The second dominant theme in the discussions in Washington was the problem of recycling surplus oil funds. We have to design machinery to ensure that the so-called petro-dollars are distributed in such a way that they match the needs of the oil consuming countries who are in deficit.

Any wholly new mechanism takes a long time to establish, so it seems sensible to build on what we already have. It was for this reason that I made my proposal in Washington for a new IMF facility developed in stages as funds accrue to the producers, and as the parallel needs of consumers grow.

I have not put this forward as a complete answer to the

recycling problem, but I hope it will make a contribution. It has already received widespread support.

Forty years ago, at a time when the United States faced problems far more formidable than those we face today, its greatest leader of the Twentieth Century said: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

The problems confronting Britain now are formidable enough without the apocalyptic exaggerations all too popular in recent weeks.

Our recent record on economic growth has been less impressive than our achievement on the balance of payments. But, although some sectors are still suffering from capacity constraints, industrial production has now recovered to the level of last autumn.

What is disturbing is that not only in the United Kingdom, where two million of yesterday's working produced a substantial fall in output, but in the OECD countries as a whole, real output also fell in the first half of this year. It is now recovering.

But, as the oil producers' petro-dollar surplus now builds up, the contraction of world demand caused by their inability to spend their earnings will be added to the contraction in demand already brought about by tighter monetary and fiscal policies among the consumer countries. It is in this conjunction that the risk of a slump resides.

I know there are some theorists who believe that the only way of curing inflation is to adopt economic policies which would mean, for us in Britain, unemployment in the low millions for three or four years. But, apart from its moral unacceptability, I believe that our political and economic system could not survive the social strains imposed by mass unemployment on that scale and duration.

Whether in theory such mass unemployment would bring the rate of inflation down is therefore scarcely relevant. But what all recent experience has shown is that unemployment at a level which a free society can tolerate is not a cure for inflation. I have not put this forward as a complete answer to the

Extracts from some of the speeches delivered last night at the Lord Mayor's Banquet for bankers and merchants of the City of London

Indeed, it is more likely to make inflation worse—not only because it increases unit costs but also because it is liable to lead to higher wage demands as the trade unions seek to provide their members with a cushion against the risk of unemployment.

I would hope we learnt that lesson three or four years ago. Moreover, I simply cannot understand how it can make economic sense to dole out some £900m a year in unemployment pay, redundancy pay and supplementary benefit to keep a million active men and women idle when the nation needs the goods they could produce as much as they want to produce.

Providing we continue to prevent overall demand—foreign as well as domestic—from outstripping the growth in our productive capacity, our ability to control inflation will depend on ensuring that the general level of pay settlements does not rise above what is needed to cover increases in the cost of living and no less important, on reducing to the minimum the disruption of production and delivery dates caused by the use of industrial stoppages as an instrument of bargaining.

For both these purposes, if I may quote a most distinguished civil servant who has recently joined your ranks: "A voluntary policy is the only way, even if it takes years to achieve it."

The trade unions are no more perfect than any other section of society. But you would not have thanked me, my Lord Mayor, if I had opened my remarks not by dwelling on the City's great service to the nation, but by listing all the examples I can remember of shortcomings in its ranks and treating them as typical of your institutions as a whole.

I hope I can count on a similar readiness on the part of those assembled here to look objectively at the immense service the trade union movement performs for the nation, and the wisdom and courage its leaders have shown, above all in recent months. I hope, too, that some leader of the CBI will respond in kind to the impressive appeal made both to workers and employers by Mr Jack Jones this afternoon.

It is my intention to dramatise the immediate situation; but if it were allowed to continue, the consequences could spread progressively; and would be all the more serious for our being so unfamiliar with them.

This leads me to suggest that the first question for employment prospects may now be, not (as in most post-war years) should we or should we not stimulate consumer demand; but how do we safeguard British industry, and with it the jobs it provides.

The basic fact is that inflation has hit companies particularly hard: the price of the materials which industry uses has risen much faster than the general price level.

In the two years up to the middle of this year, industry must have had to find £6,000m to finance stock appreciation.

It would now ask him to abolish it altogether, at least for the overseas investor, whom we sorely need.

The stock market is very sick and we must appeal for help. Last year I appealed to the Chancellor to reduce the taxes on investment in securities.

We had then just had VAT added to 1 per cent stamp duty.

When it failed to 2 per cent the TUC and others accused us of panicmongering and deliberate sabotage. The market responded by falling yet further.

Then, in September, a fresh

Election was called, and suddenly the stock market's message of the past 18 months became the opening paragraph of every party's manifesto. The needs of industry and the community suddenly became identical.

Finally, we in the City must play our part in explaining, not only to our political masters, but also to their masters, the people of this country, that the well-being of the City of London is vital to their own well-being.

With the fall in the market came the first of the fringe banking debacles which had in them the seed of the collapse of the whole banking system in the United Kingdom.

Where gentlemen, are we now? The oil deficit which we thought last year would be £400m at worst, now appears to be about £2,500m.

We had a General Election in February and a new Government whose policies, initially, gave priority to their social objectives, and to do so paid too little regard to the needs of business.

The market's commentary on these policies is a matter of record. After a brief period of relative stability during the

1972-1974 in relatively good shape, and for the first half of the current year to October 5 the board say the group was successful in favourable market conditions. In spite of the economic difficulties facing the country they view the future with confidence. The interim dividend is up from 3.75p to 4.25p. The total payment last year was 16.55p.

The stock market, as measured by the FT ordinary share index had reached an all-time high point of 543.6 on May 16, 1972, and had remained well above 450 for the rest of that year. The first sharp break came in January 1973 when Phase One of the Prices and Incomes policy was announced and the index fell during that month by about 50 points.

With the fall in the market came the first of the fringe banking debacles which had in them the seed of the collapse of the whole banking system in the United Kingdom.

Where gentlemen, are we now? The oil deficit which we thought last year would be £400m at worst, now appears to be about £2,500m.

We had a General Election in February and a new Government whose policies, initially, gave priority to their social objectives, and to do so paid too little regard to the needs of business.

The market's commentary on these policies is a matter of record. After a brief period of relative stability during the

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The stock market is very sick and we must appeal for help. Last year I appealed to the Chancellor to reduce the taxes on investment in securities.

We had then just had VAT added to 1 per cent stamp duty.

When it failed to 2 per cent the TUC and others accused us of panicmongering and deliberate sabotage. The market responded by falling yet further.

Then, in September, a fresh

Election was called, and suddenly the stock market's message of the past 18 months became the opening paragraph of every party's manifesto. The needs of industry and the community suddenly became identical.

Finally, we in the City must play our part in explaining, not only to our political masters, but also to their masters, the people of this country, that the well-being of the City of London is vital to their own well-being.

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Canning faced with deteriorating position after bright six months

By David Mort

A better-than-expected interim result, but a picture of deteriorating profits, liquidity and margins emerges from W. Canning, the Birmingham electrical and mechanical engineers. Because of the shorter working week rather lower profits had been expected in the half year to June 30. But in the event the pre-tax turned out to be £24,000 higher, at £525,000, from a turnover expanded from £8,48m to £9,33m. Earnings a share were 2.3p, up 2.6p, and the dividend is up from 6.62p to 6.66p.

But since the half-year stage has worsened. The directors state that the flow of incoming orders, both from the United Kingdom and abroad, continued at a satisfactory level during the third quarter, but some decline has been noticeable during October.

Margins are likely to continue to deteriorate rather than improve while the system of price control is in operation, and it is unlikely that full-year profits will reach the £1.3m of 1973. In particular, the group pinpoints the continuing increase in the

non-recoverable element of wages and expenses as causing concern.

On liquidity the picture is little better with a reversal of the position which obtained at the beginning of the year. Because of the escalating cost of materials, investment in stock has increased substantially and to a greater extent than can be financed by the cash flow from profits.

As a result the company is now operating on a "substantial" overdraft, though within the limits agreed with its bankers.

As a result the company is now operating on a "substantial" overdraft, though within the limits agreed with its bankers.

He hoped the new government would rectify this situation by treating all debts equally.

The company is still operating within the limits of its overdraft which had not come down from the £8.3m shown.

He told shareholders that a final dividend of 2.87p announced for last year would now probably be paid in the middle of January. It was announced in August, but payment deferred because of the uncertain trading conditions.

The poor first leg is not unexpected. Having spent £5m on new facilities Eastwood forced to cut back production because of market conditions.

The consequent squeeze on margins left the company taking doing no more than breaking even in the half when it announced its last results.

Beef subsidy unfair to poultry, says Eastwood

Shares of J. B. Eastwood, the big poultry and egg producer, fell four points to 35p yesterday after Mr John Eastwood, chairman, said first-half profits would be substantially down and in spite of a revival over the final six months the overall return would be less than last year's record £6m pre-tax.

"It is a very volatile situation," he said after the annual meeting. "Earlier he had told shareholders that the poultry industry was suffering from government policies. Although

producers the chairman said the policy of subsidised beef by up to 7p a lb against poultry was not equitable or in the national interest.

He hoped the new government would rectify this situation by treating all debts equally.

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Sales leap at Coates

At the last annual meeting of Coates Brothers, the printing ink group, the chairman stressed the increasing importance of the group's overseas interests. In the half year to June 30 both sales and profits from these sources are said to show bigger increases than those at home.

For both these purposes, if I may quote a most distinguished civil servant who has recently joined your ranks: "A voluntary policy is the only way, even if it takes years to achieve it."

The trade unions are no more perfect than any other section of society. But you would not have thanked me, my Lord Mayor, if I had opened my remarks not by dwelling on the City's great service to the nation, but by listing all the examples I can remember of shortcomings in its ranks and treating them as typical of your institutions as a whole.

I hope I can count on a similar readiness on the part of those assembled here to look objectively at the immense service the trade union movement performs for the nation, and the wisdom and courage its leaders have shown, above all in recent months. I hope, too, that some leader of the CBI will respond in kind to the impressive appeal made both to workers and employers by Mr Jack Jones this afternoon.

It is my intention to dramatise the immediate situation; but if it were allowed to continue, the consequences could spread progressively; and would be all the more serious for our being so unfamiliar with them.

It would now be right for me to say a little about the rôle of monetary policy. Over the past year we have had two objectives: first, to lower the rate of monetary expansion to keep this arm of policy in line with counter-inflation policy generally; and second, to maintain the attractiveness of sterling internationally, and so help to finance the external deficit.

We have had to work through periods of some tension, in conditions of some novelty; but broadly our objectives were achieved. We have had to maintain a level of interest rates, and operating costs took their toll with the result that profits dipped 21 per cent to £718,000 pre-tax, even though turnover rose from £14.2m to £16.3m.

The "healthy" state of the order book indicates that the increased rate of turnover will be maintained but for the future the group takes a cautious view of quiet optimism. It is hoped the French subsidiary will return to profitability next year.

The dividend goes up from 0.47p to 0.52p.

The basic fact is that inflation has hit companies particularly hard: the price of the materials which industry uses has risen much faster than the general price level.

In the two years up to the middle of this year, industry must have had to find £6,000m to finance stock appreciation.

It would now ask him to abolish it altogether, at least for the overseas investor, whom we sorely need.

The stock market is very sick and we must appeal for help. Last year I appealed to the Chancellor to reduce the taxes on investment in securities.

We had then just had VAT added to 1 per cent stamp duty.

When it failed to 2 per cent the TUC and others accused us of panicmongering and deliberate sabotage. The market responded by falling yet further.

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BRIEF FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Nervous mood persists

The stock market had a disturbed session yesterday in the face of grim trading news from Philips Lamps, the international electrical goods manufacturer, reports that the Confederation of British Industry intends to tell the Government that the industry is "trading at a standstill".

Financial shares saw a fresh of nervous selling, although many share prices followed a statement by Slater Walker Securities, it stressed the group's financial position.

At the end of the day, the FT was 2.4 down at 203.6, having touched 202.5 earlier. At 70, The Times index showed a loss of 1.17 points. Turn was lower than on Wednesday, although a total of 6,395 deals bargains confirmed the market remains more than in the weeks preceding the General Election.

The day opened with some losses among the second-ranking issues, as the City ed increasing fears for the fate of the Jewel situation.

Edward Budd, chairman of the Jewel subsidiary, was trying to sell its

subsidiary, Welfareance, and Slater Walker

shares. Slater Walker

shares fell back, and there were losses for Thorn "A" (103p) and for Decca (112p).

Among the electrical engineers, Plessey finished the day 1p off at 63p, not helped by profit-taking on the good first quarter figures.

But multi-national traders like ICI (160p), Beecham (137p), Courtaulds (72p), Fisons (17p), Glaxo Holdings (214p) and Unilever (168p) steadied when Wall Street opened firmer, and finished the session either unchanged or with minor losses.

Hawker Siddeley turned lower on reports of trade union conciliation regarding the shelving of the HS-145 project. Vickers

shares were unscathed by labour disputes, but Tube Investments (178p) and GKN (148p) were

steading at the end of the unchanged at 53p.

Edmunds sellers of E. Bates

the shares down to 17p at 17p, and although the price

dropped to 22p as the sector

stagnated behind Mr Slater's

agent, they ended the day at

17p, a net loss of 5p.

Other dull spots on the

initial pitches included

Brook Bond 5p off at 80p on

Jessel connexion, and

Ullmann 3p lower at

Discount house issues

Gerrard & National, finally

up at 205p.

The major lending banks

ed only minor losses and

very little selling. Lloyds

ipped 2p to 130p, and

HSB 3p to 140p.

Finance shares continued to

ground while the City

ed the outcome of the

to solve the problems of

stocks.

Latest dividends

Company	Year	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Montreal (23)	24*	22*	—	50*
Walker (25p) Int	0.52	2.4	14/11	1.18
St. Tst (25p) Fin	1.3	1.25	2.05	2.00
Wining (25p) Int	0.66	0.62	30/11	3.56
Brothers (25p) Int	0.85	0.39	3/1	2.35
Ental Oil (55) Oly	26*	371*	15/12	158*
Dawes (25p) Fin	5.22	5.0	2/1	7.83
Steels (25p) Fin	3.68	3.5	2/1	5.51
St. Inds (25p) Int	1.18	1.05	2/12	3.15
St. Nat (25p) Int	1.25	1.25	6/12	16.53
St. Smart (10p) Int	0.75	0.60	—	1.83
St. D'Ulleries (20p) Fin	4.95	4.71	—	7.03
St. Low Rbr (10p) Int	0.72	0.587	6/1	1.28*
St. Gel Oly	60*	45*	2/12	160*
St. Liley (25p) Int	1	0.871	—	2.20*
St. Mart (25p) Int	0.52	0.47	6/12	0.7
St. Person (25p) Fin	1.96	2.7	—	4.58
St. Group (25p) Fin	1.5	1.79	3/1	2.74
St. El (25p) Fin	1	1.25	—	2.62
St. Ribbons (10p) Fin	1.49	1.5	2/1	8.1
St. Ribbons (10p) Fin	1.49	1.5	2/1	7.35
St. Ribbons (10p) Fin	1.49	1.5	2/1	2.5

* staled for scrip. * Cents a share.

Business appointments

Malcolm Macdonald is appointed Europe treasurer

Malcolm Macdonald has been elected treasurer of Ford of Europe by J. Johnson, until recently managing director of the Ford of Europe Division as director of administration.

G. Gibbs is to succeed H. Whitaker as chairman of the chairman and National Discount the latter retires on October 31.

J. B. Mynors becomes managing director of RFD Group in place of C. A. C. de Bolville. Mr. Giles joins the board.

H. C. Needles has been appointed chairman of Hover-Gravels. Rafe Clutton has been appointed to the board of City Property Investors Trust. W. Stone has become director of Bridgwater Properties and Infolok, subsidiary of Dupont. Following appointment of his duties as director of planning and administration of Dupont engineering. He has also been appointed a director of John C. Newson, a new automotive components division has been formed following directors: Mr. Russell, Mr. F. R. Loader, Mr. Simpson, Mr. G. Beacham, Mr. R. R. Wright, Mr. D. G. D. Wright and Mr. M. P. Warehouses.

Mr. J. F. Chambers has been appointed director and secretary of Telcon Metals.

Mr. Keith Stewart has joined the board of Bankart (Life and Pensions).

Captain G. T. Pitt has been appointed a director of Bowring Steamship. The following have been appointed directors of C. T. Bowring Computer Services: Mr. E. A. G. Kimble, Mr. A. C. Mitchell and Mr. R. R. White.

Mr. C. J. Pearce has become managing director of the Berni Ims Group.



HEWDEN-STUART PLANT LIMITED

INTERIM RESULTS 1974

Half year to	Year to
26 July, 1974	27 July, 1973
£'000	£'000
Trading Profit	2,197
Depreciation	1,459
Profits	1,277
Gross earnings per share	7.86p

EXTRACTS FROM CHAIRMAN'S LETTER:

"The second half has started well".

"The ultimate outcome for the year will depend on the extent to which increased costs can be controlled or recovered".

"Cash flow is running at an annual rate of around £6m (or over 30p per share)" - "Your Group has established financial flexibility at a time when liquidity is of paramount importance".

135 BUCHANAN STREET, GLASGOW G1 2JA.

H & L Rubber surges to £4.1m

Back in July, Mr T. B. Barlow, chairman of Highlands & Lowlands Para Rubber, detailing crops harvested for the first half of 1974, gave the news that its natural rubber crop had sold at higher prices so that profits from this sector should be good.

In the event, he was unduly cautious in that estimated taxable profits for the first seven months have been boosted to a group best-ever of £4.1m—a threefold increase from the £1.3m produced in the comparable period—and easily outstripping the group's previous

R97.5m, against R92.5m. The dividend is cut from 1.5p to 1.21p.

ECGD back Slimma group

A strong second half by

Slimma Group, formerly Emu

Wool Industries, has helped the

group to achieve peak profits

and turnover in the year to June 30.

The company has moved away

from sales to the motor indu-

stry, which have been under-

pressure, and in the current

first quarter 65 per cent of

sales from the United Kingdom

have been outside the motor

trade.

Stal at Stylo

Out of sales improved from

£5.5m to £5.7m pre-tax profit

of Stylo Shoes slumped from

£293,000 to £6,000 in the half

to August 3. The profit is

struck after interest of £91,500

and bank interest up

from £69,000 to £101,000.

Jones, Stroud-Cash

After a poor response to its

offer of 15p share cash for

the 6.7 per cent of the equity

owned, the board of Jones

Stroud (Holdings) is now offer-

ing 15p a share cash. This offer

remains open until

Irwin stops trading

London stockbrokers Irwin &

Co. will stop trading from Nov

ember 8 as four of its partners

join Robert Wrigley & Co and

Eric Raphael, Robinson &

Clyne. A non-trading obliga-

tion of Irwin will be settled by

G. le M. Croll from the com-

pany's offices at the Stock

Exchange.

W' Ribbons up 67 pc

In spite of a loss of £57,000

from associates "W" Ribbons

Holdings managed to boost tax-

able profits 67 per cent to

£430,000 last term.

This maker of nylon and

polyester webbings says the

main operating company had a

very good year with buoyant

demand. But there was a loss

at the German Autoly asso-

ciate and it is hoped to bring

this company to a break-even

point by the end of the year.

Best year for

Slimma group

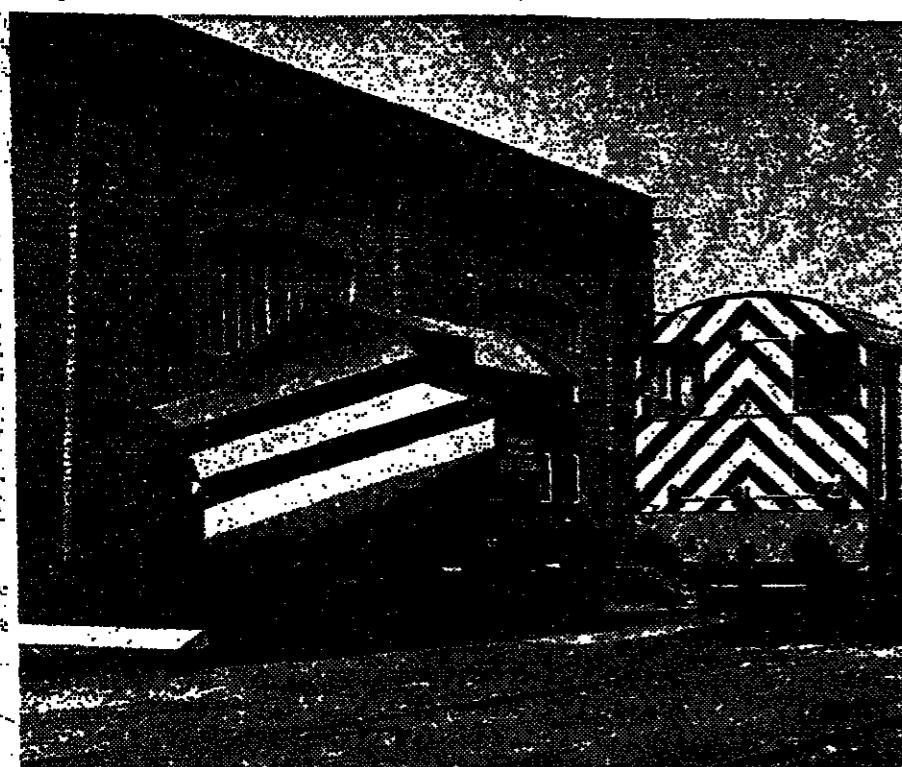
The Export Credits Guarantees

Department has guaranteed a

£

Thamesdown

a Special Report



nowplough which was built by British Rail Engineering at its Swindon works and a 350hp diesel-electric shunting locomotive after being completely overhauled. Right: the new Brunel shopping centre.

Judge of change reflects new aims and methods

rick O'Leary

the bulk of the 55,000 acres, creation and culture, and taste of diversification during the Second World War, when some factories were established there as part of the dispersal precautions against air raids.

Thamesdown has the right to exercise some important extra powers as agent of the county council. They relate mainly to highways and traffic management. Any friction may be soothed by their joint use of a computer at County Hall in Trowbridge, with terminals in Swindon.

Personal contacts are maintained by district councillors attending county council meetings as coopted members. Chief executives of all six authorities meet monthly.

Ambition to grow led Swindon's leaders to seize the opportunity given by the 1952 Town Development Act. They agreed to take population from London in return for help in developing housing and industrial estates.

It was a chance to move on from too much reliance on the railway workshops, which had served the town well for a century but were destined for nearer in time to London, to the industrial Midlands and to Southampton.

Several national firms and

corporations have "threatened" to locate warehouse, storage or office headquarters in the area. One director mentioned the availability of private airfields locally as an asset.

Hence the labour force of some 71,000 is fairly evenly divided between manufacturing and construction on one hand and services and distribution on the other. At 2.1 per cent at the latest count, unemployment is below the average for the South-west.

Housing has been provided by a mixture of private and council building with a good deal of flexibility in the help the council is prepared to give home buyers. Development outside the town has been matched by a new shopping precinct, offices and entertainment halls near its centre.

One commentator said last year: "The Swindon development threatens to become one of the largest town developments in Britain, comparable in magnitude with new towns grafted on to old ones in places like Northampton and Peterborough." The word

is out that the town has "threatened" to cause a wry smile or two in the civic offices of Thamesdown, although it may do no harm to remind planners that the concept of bigger means better is no longer universally accepted.

Mr David Kent, chief executive of the new authority, is aware of the difficulties inherent in Thamesdown's situation. It means one council combining the management of a large borough and the duties equivalent to those of a development corporation with a current capital five-year programme costing more than £100m.

He believes there is a case for extra financial resources being made available to the county and borough in such circumstances. He would also like to see his council given the kind of powers over urban development granted to the big metropolitan districts under the new arrangements.

Thamesdown, it seems, has not abandoned the old ambition to be independent.

Demand for space continues as commercial area is renewed

For the visitor the first noticeable feature of Swindon is that the cranes are still flying there. On a clear day, you can see 12 of them at work on various construction sites, 10 in the town itself.

Mr G. Blythe, Thamesdown's director of development and housing, said: "There has been no real drop in people intending to come to Swindon."

He added that the buoyancy of demand would be tested by the council's efforts to promote two major sites.

One is about 13 acres of office development on the eastern side of the town at Broome Manor. A finance house negotiated to take it, but the deal did not go through.

The other site, covering 80 acres, is to the west, overlooking the M4 at Spittleborough. Mr Blythe said they hoped this would attract four or five firms offering high-class employment in industry or offices.

British womanhood will surely wait in the end under the strain of the endless round of shopping supplied by developers, particularly when shopping around can mean driving 25 miles to another town, or even taking a rail excursion to London.

However, demand for space in Swindon does not seem to slacken. "We are still being selective about the right mix of retailing outlets in our letting policy," Mr Blythe said.

Mr David Maggs, president of Swindon Chamber of Commerce, said: "Building has not stopped here. The impetus of development is still there. Swindon is recognized as a dynamic place to live, with unusually pleasant countryside around it."

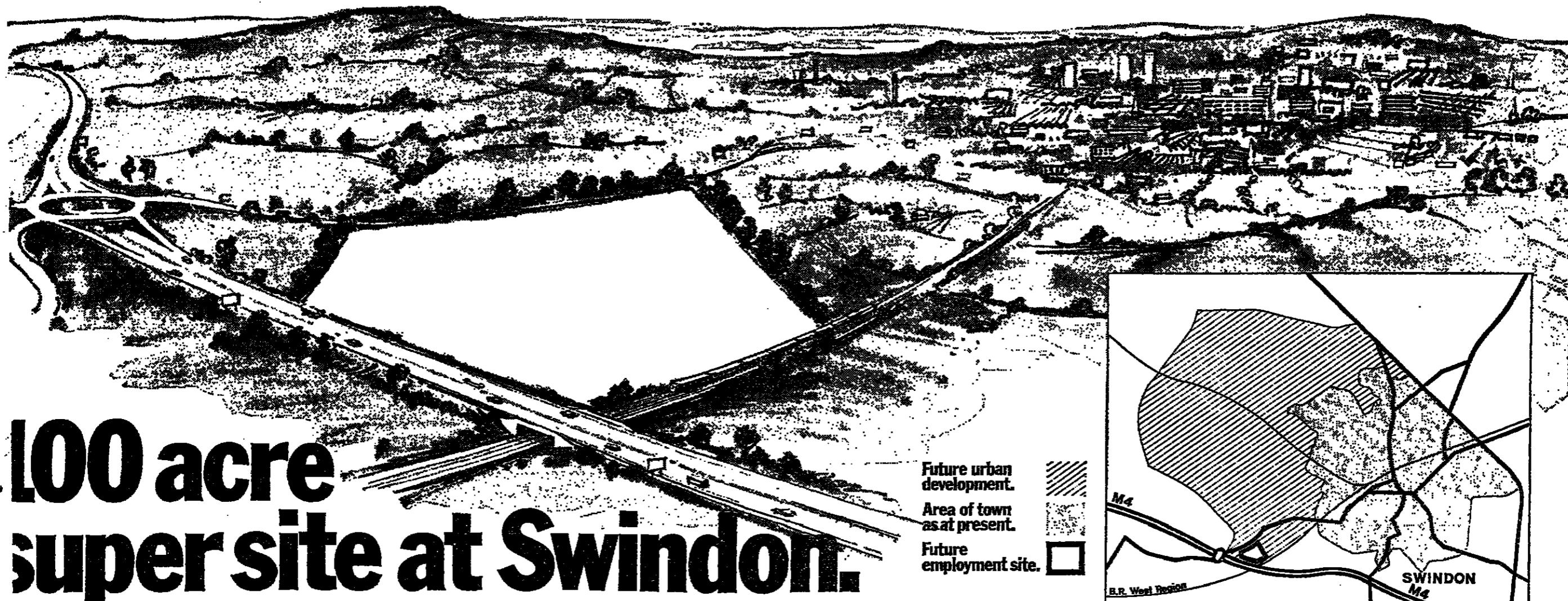
He agreed that the changes had pushed up wages. "The inflow of many people who know London scales has caused this," Mr Maggs said. "The standard of living enjoyed by Swindon in 1974 is greater than at any time in the past."

Development has been financed and controlled largely by the local authority itself. Mr Maggs said: "I cannot believe Swindon could have emerged like it has as a product of private investment. It simply had to be government-sponsored, the investment was so enormous."

Naturally there have been dissenting views. Some feel

Leer Thamesdown seems to have moved too far from its railway history, it should be noted that the man of the new authority, Councillor R. J. Smith, is a toolmaker employed by British Rail since 1953. Many of his Swindon predecessors also worked inside the great wall.

P.O.T.



100 acre super site at Swindon.

SWINDON, the U.K.'s number one 'Expanding Town', is providing further room for industrial and commercial growth. Thamesdown Borough Council have reserved a 100 acre super site, no more than 10 minutes from the town centre, for exclusive development by about four major international companies.

Gain from it all the heart of things.

Although close to the centre of Swindon, this Employment Area enjoys a superb location in the heart of Wiltshire countryside, with almost direct access to the M4 Motorway which borders one side of the site.

With continued planned expansion, the council is concerned that this site could be occupied only by companies who can make the very best use of the facilities available, whilst contributing to the future prosperity and the active environment of the area.

For this reason, we are inviting about

four companies to share in this site which offers unequalled scope for industrial and commercial expansion, away from congestion, but still at the very heart of things.

For example, it's actually quicker by motorway to Heathrow Airport from Swindon than it is from Central London and the frequent train service will take you to Paddington in little more than an hour. The site is located at interchange No. 16 on the M4 (London to South Wales) which gives rapid motorway access to the M5 and M6 (to the Midlands and the North) thus providing excellent road communication with other major Cities and Ports.

Swindon—where the big boys feel at home.

The Borough's unparalleled facilities have proved invaluable to Swindon's continued expansion and many well known firms have already been attracted to the area. Burma Oil, British Leyland, Roussel Laboratories, The Nationwide Building Society, Hambo Life Assurance Ltd., and W.H. Smith & Sons are but a few.

Follow their example and every provision will be made to ensure you, your

company and your employees settle in quickly and comfortably. Thamesdown Borough Council offer a comprehensive and continuous service to management with a specialist development team ready to help from the outset.

Now it's your move

Bring your business to Swindon—we're ready and willing to answer any questions you or your staff may have, to help solve any problems that may arise, and to arrange tours of the area to

help everyone feel at home.

One final point—if this site is too big for you but you like the idea of moving to Swindon, there are other sites available in the area, one of which will almost certainly prove suitable.

Take a step in the right direction—to Swindon, where there's room to breathe. Contact: G. Blythe, Director, Development and Housing, Dept TT, Thamesdown Borough Council, Civic Offices, Swindon. Tel: 0793 26161.



SWINDON 
Borough
of
Thamesdown



tranquillity of the upper Thames near Inglesham.

Spurred decision gives fresh lease of life to historic village

non Bucks

Isambard Kingdom Brunel's decision to pick Swindon to be the railway engineering hub of Europe in 1841 was a sleepy market noted more for quarts than for heavy industry's decision to a railway works there aught with the same f problems as mining nies faced when they in the pits in the

There was no ready force waiting and no nitation for the first grant workers needed

Great Western Rail to convert Brunel's to reality.

was out of necessity I as Victorian philo y that Brunel, and Gooch, who later built of Bath stone, excavated the vated from the Box tunnel, built an industrial so costs of materials were estate, far ahead of kept low. The dozen streets ie and superior to were named after the main colliery villages railway stations on the during the same GWR line—Bristol, Exeter, Taunton, Reading and so on.

The design of the village was elegant, and the 300 terraced cottages were

noted for their gables and workers, and arithmetic, dic shapely chimneys. But the significant aspect of the vil tation and domestic subjects have been its doom. The village's planning was for their wives and daughters. It also included a addition of the larger houses for foremen and managers—a successful attempt to mix social classes in the same community.

Antagonism arose instead between the newcomers, the railway people, and the inhabitants of Swindon village who, it is said, put chains across the roads to separate the two communities. The antipathy is understandable: the railway workers were probably better off than any other working-class group at the time.

Pioneer of adult education

The GWR established in the railway village a number of enlightened welfare projects, some of them 100 years ahead of their time. It pioneered adult education with the Mechanics Institute, established in 1845. The institute provided evening classes in such subjects as mathematics, engineering, science

and workers, and arithmetic, dic shapely chimneys. But the significant aspect of the vil tation and domestic subjects have been its doom. The village's planning was for their wives and daughters. It also included a addition of the larger houses for foremen and managers—a successful attempt to mix social classes in the same community.

A school and a church, St Mark's, were also built with funds subscribed by shareholders of the GWR, and both were opened in 1845.

Later swimming baths and a park were added. But it was the railway medical fund society, set up in 1847, which shows how far ahead the railway company was in its attitude to welfare initiatives.

Within a few years the fund had built up a medical centre offering better facilities than could be found almost anywhere else at the time.

For a few pence a week every railway worker and his family could have free treatment at the centre. The system survived so well that after the Second World War, Mr Aneurin Bevan, the Minister of Health of the time, studied it before the National Health Service was set up.

It was nationalization and the Beeching axe that helped to send the railway

village towards what might have been its doom. The financial benefits are, however, not the only ones. The new-style railway village has won the Swindon two awards under the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors' Conservation Award Scheme, as well as being highly commended under the Environment housing award scheme, which has listed it as of architectural and historical importance.

A pilot scheme involving 23 houses was launched in 1969, and the conversion, costing £1,800 for each house, was completed a year later. "Practically the whole interior of each house was gutted and refurbished, although we preserved the external character and appearance", Mr Winter said. "We completely replaced modern housing fixtures. And we relaid and insulated the back yards and outside buildings."

The council installed modern bathrooms and plumbing and a system of space heating. Cables and pipes for electricity, gas and water, as well as other services, were carried underground to avoid unsightly lines.

So far 80 houses have been completely modernized, and a further 60 are due to be finished soon. The whole scheme is expected to cost about £1.5m but, as Mr Winter points out, it would have cost more like £3m to

Picnics and other pleasures

Mr Denys Hodson, director of arts and recreation in Thamesdown, has responsibilities which cover rather more than cheering everyone up. His umbrella shelters a theatre, swimming baths, art gallery, and a picnic park, to name but a few. In the organizational changes his department has also acquired responsibility for a crematorium and for landscaping development sites.

Perhaps the most challenging undertaking at present is at Coate Water, on the south side of Swindon. This fine stretch of water was created 150 years ago as a reservoir to feed a canal running through the town.

The canal linked the Avon to the Thames, and Bristol traders used it as a short cut to London. But when the railway came, the canal was finally filled in, and Coate Water became a haven for rare birds and anglers.

Now the area is being developed for boasting children's playgrounds, and other entertainments. By 1976 there will also be an 18-hole golf course at Broome Manor, development adjoining Coate Water. Most of the cost will be met by the sale of land for high quality houses round the golf course and for offices.

But it is hoped that the greater part of the lake will remain an area of peaceful beauty. This may appear in the shade of Richard Jeffries, a Swindon author, who drew inspiration from wandering round Coate Water. His birthplace, now containing a museum, is in sight of it.

On the northern side of Swindon a £3m leisure centre should be completed late next year. Its indoor halls provide most of the standard sports, and a swimming pool will have artificial waves and be surrounded by palm trees. Outside there will be a closed circuit cycling track for juniors who are not allowed to race on public roads.

On the cultural side, the Wyvern Theatre in the centre of Swindon celebrated its third birthday this year. In the early days there was some criticism that its offerings were a little high-flown, perhaps inspired by its name, a mythical beast allied to the dragon and griffin, once the emblem of the kings of Wessex. This winter a programme appears well balanced, with an Agatha Christie thriller, *Hair*, a special film season, and orchestral concerts among the items.

Some of the shows are

presented by local amateur companies, who also have the use of an arts centre in old Swindon. In addition to a hall, this has meeting rooms used by various clubs.

Swindon's art gallery opened in 1964, and its pictures are as modern as the building. Among them are a vivid David Bomberg of a Palestinian landscape, works by John Piper and John Nash, and an unusual Lowry with more buildings than people. I thought Gertler's "Girl in a Feather Hat" was gazing a little daintily at some of the more eccentric works on show.

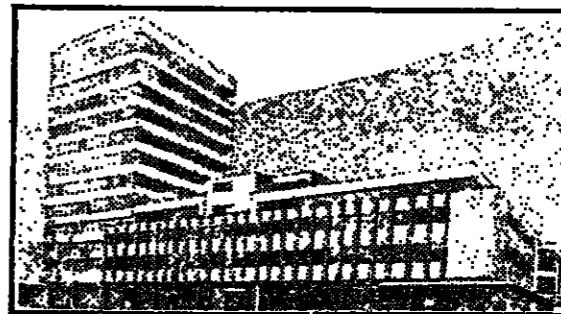
The Technocentre, near the Wyvern Theatre, is an interesting attempt to combine the functions of an information centre with making the machine age intelligible to the average man and woman. A recent exhibition there by Highworth Artists Society made the best of both worlds rather neatly.

It was a display of paintings, photographs, tools, materials and products relating to the countryside. The society called it "an attempt to pay our respects to the earth and to the many generations of our ancestors who by their labour, ingenuity and creativity founded the stable society from which grew the present age of technology which gives many people the leisure time to indulge in activities other than earning a living".

The central plaza of the Brunel shopping centre, which is covered by a transparent dome, will be used for informal entertainment. It is likely to be the setting for some of the happenings envisaged by Thamesdown's arts officer, Mr T. Court. Shoppers may find them

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University of Southampton

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Applications are invited from research workers, practitioners for appointment as Professor of Clinical Pharmacology. Applications with the appropriate professional rank and experience should be submitted from the Academic Registrar, The University, Southampton SO9 4DU. Applications should reach him no later than 31st December 1974, but applicants need not re-apply, as their applications will be considered.

The appointment will be made on the basis of Senior Lecturer: £2595-3025, to £31,500-34,500, or Senior Reader: £2595-3025, to £39,350.

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